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I. SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERS THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

On 5 October 1990, meeting at the request of Yemen, the Security Council considered "the situation in the occupied Arab territories". The Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People took part in the debate and made the following statement (see S/PV.2945):

"Since the intifadah began almost three years ago, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People has repeatedly drawn the Security Council's attention to the ever-increasing deterioration of the situation in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied by Israel since 1967, and has expressed its deepest concern over the occupying Power's recourse to armed force and the most brutal repression.

"According to information published by several human rights organizations, Israel has intensified its acts of violence against and persecution of Palestinian civilians, making massive use of tear-gas and inflicting inhuman corporal punishment on those detained.

"Given the repeated attacks perpetrated by the Israeli armed forces on these persons, it was inconceivable that the Israeli Government would have the audacity to condone and even encourage such violence. But, blinded by the desire to crush the intifadah, it has on the contrary eased the restrictions on the use of firearms - closing its eyes to the many abuses which have been committed and observed.

"This unspeakable attitude has resulted in the death of 856 Palestinians in the period between the beginning of the intifadah and 31 August 1990. It is estimated that 99,150 Palestinians have been wounded. Moreover, there has been an alarming, rapid deterioration in the situation of children. Indeed, there has been a terrible toll: 217 children younger than the age of 16 - that is, 25 per cent of the total - have been killed during the intifadah.

"The Israeli occupation authorities continue to have recourse to collective punishment and Draconian measures - deportations, massive arrests, detention, raids on houses and villages, prolonged curfews, confiscation of property, destruction of vegetation and crops, and so forth. This is a flagrant and inadmissible violation of the relevant principles and provisions of international law, and more particularly of the Fourth Geneva Convention, of 12 August

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1949, relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

"In addition, since the beginning of the intifadah a total of 10,200 Palestinians have been placed in administrative detention, without any formal charges; and no normal judicial proceedings are contemplated. It is estimated that 60,000 Palestinians have been imprisoned during the intifadah, not to speak of the large number of cases of torture and ill-treatment of political detainees. Moreover, on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, 7,755 days of curfew have been imposed on hundreds of thousands of Palestinians; 1,577 houses and other buildings have been demolished or sealed by 31 August 1990. Only last week, at least 49 houses and shops were destroyed in the Bureij camp in the Gaza Strip. During the same period, there has been an increasing number of illegal and violent acts by Israeli settlers, in the form of attacks against individuals, raids on Palestinian villages and quarters, vandalism and, what is even worse, desecration of Muslim religious sites.

"This violent repression has been compounded by the violation of the Palestinian community's most fundamental social, economic and cultural rights. In this regard, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has indicated that the entire Palestinian educational system has been paralysed by the closing of teaching institutions since the beginning of the intifadah.

"No doubt, some institutions have been reopened, but the Israeli occupation authorities continue, as a matter of collective punishment, to interfere seriously with their functioning, by ordering military operations in educational institutions - raids on their buildings, firing upon students, arrests, arbitrary closure of such institutions, or closures following curfews, and other actions. The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East has stated in this regard that Israeli intervention is preventing it from providing education under satisfactory conditions for children of Palestinian refugees and from making optimum use of public funds provided for that purpose.

"The World Health Organization has, for its part, stated that the health situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, in particular in the Gaza Strip, remains deplorable and has deteriorated steadily since the beginning of the intifadah. Access to medical care, the

supply of water, road and other necessary services have been subjected to restrictions, such as repeated and prolonged curfews, imposed by the occupation authorities. In view of the large number of persons wounded during the intifadah, medical services, already insufficient, are reported to have been completely overwhelmed. It has also been stated that those wounded were often deprived of care for hours on end during their arbitrary detention at police or army installations. These facts have often been aggravated by frequent raids made by Israeli troops at clinics, where they grievously maltreated the patients.

"The International Labour Organisation has emphasized that there has been no improvement in working and living conditions for Palestinian workers and their families. The military occupation and the substantial obstacles encountered in the agricultural, industrial and other areas continue to impede the economic development of the occupied territory.

"Since the beginning of the intifadah in December 1987, the Security Council has been endeavouring unsuccessfully to find ways of ensuring protection for the Palestinians. The Council has not followed up on the Secretary-General's report submitted in January 1988, which contained very useful and constructive recommendations and observations. Several draft resolutions submitted by the group of non-aligned countries during previous debates on this question, the most recent of which took place in May 1990 at Geneva, have not been adopted.

"In the face of this situation, I believe it essential to emphasize vigorously once again the primary responsibility of the Security Council, which, as the body serving as the guarantor of international peace and security, must without further delay take adequate and firm steps to make Israel comply with its obligations and duties as an occupying Power, pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949. The Committee believes that it is now time for the High Contracting Parties to that Convention, supported by all Members of our Organization, to compel Israel to live up fully to its responsibilities. For that reason, the Committee wishes to urge the Security Council to set up, as a matter of urgency, an appropriate system capable of ensuring the effective protection of the population in the occupied territories.

"We are convinced that only scrupulous respect by Israel for the provisions of that international legal instrument will make it possible to restore order and tranquility in that area, where the heroic Palestinian people is fighting with courage and determination to regain its national identity and rid itself of the yoke of a long and unjust domination.

"In our view, order, tranquility and above all, security are the objectives which immediate United Nations action should be aimed at, not only to safeguard the interests of the Palestinian people in the occupied territory, but also, and especially, to enable the Palestinian people to exercise freely its inalienable national rights, including the right to self-determination and independence.

"The attainment of these objectives also has the major advantage of paving the way for the establishment of a climate leading to negotiation, an indispensable stage in the quest for an overall political settlement of the Middle East crisis, and in particular of the Palestinian problem.

"The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People believes that in spite of the alarming events in the Gulf region, the international community must continue to give special attention to the question of Palestine, so that a speedy and happy solution for its present political and diplomatic deadlock may be found.

"I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Committee and of my country, Senegal, to reiterate once more our firm conviction that such a settlement inevitably requires the convening, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East, in which the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, would participate on an equal footing with other participants.

"The current situation in the Gulf region, during which the Council has shown that it was able to take a clear position in favour of justice and legality, is evidence that with political will a consensus can be obtained on important issues, such as that of Palestine, which are of concern to the international community in the area of peace and security.

"For that reason, we urge the Security Council to consider the question of Palestine with the same sense of urgency and the same determination, in order to achieve a just and lasting solution of that conflict. In that connection, the Committee has taken note with great interest of the declaration of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the five permanent members of the Security Council following talks they held with the Secretary-General.

"It is reassuring to note that they expressed their serious concern over the aggravation of tensions in the Middle East and, above all, reaffirmed their determination to support an active negotiation process in which all parties concerned would participate, with a view to achieving a global, just and lasting peace.

"It is also good to find that they recalled that those negotiations must, in accordance with Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973), take into account the rights of all States in the region, including Israel, and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

"The Committee and Senegal welcome that declaration and hope that it will motivate the Security Council, so that a satisfactory and definitive solution of the question of Palestine may finally be found.

"The Security Council, which in the case of the Gulf crisis has just set the world a fine lesson of firmness in working for the triumph of legality and justice, can no longer justifiably allow the Palestinian people to be denied its inalienable national rights."

Further meetings of the Council were held on 8, 9 and 12 October. At the 12 October meeting, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 672 (1990), which reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Recalling its resolutions 476 (1980) and 478 (1980),

"Reaffirming that a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict must be based on its resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) through an active negotiating process which takes into account the right to security for all States in the region, including Israel, as well as the legitimate political rights of the Palestinian people,

"Taking into consideration the statement of the Secretary-General relative to the purpose of the mission he is sending to the region and conveyed to the Council by the President on 12 October 1990,

"1. Expresses alarm at the violence which took place on 8 October at the Al Haram Al Shareef and other Holy Places of Jerusalem resulting in over twenty Palestinian deaths and to the injury of more than one hundred and fifty people, including Palestinian civilians and innocent worshippers;

"2. Condemns especially the acts of violence committed by the Israeli security forces resulting in injuries and loss of human life;

"3. Calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations and responsibilities under the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is applicable to all the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

"4. Requests, in connection with the decision of the Secretary-General to send a mission to the region, which the Council welcomes, that he submit a report to it before the end of October 1990 containing his findings and conclusions and that he use as appropriate all of the resources of the United Nations in the region in carrying out the mission."

Subsequently, on 24 October, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 673 (1990), which reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

"Reaffirming the obligations of Member States under the United Nations Charter,

"Reaffirming also its resolution 672 (1990),

"Having been briefed by the Secretary-General on 19 October 1990,

"Expressing alarm at the rejection of Security Council resolution 672 (1990) by the Israeli Government, and its refusal to accept the mission of the Secretary-General,

"Taking into consideration the statement of the Secretary-General relative to the purpose of the mission he is sending to the region and conveyed to the Council by the President on 12 October 1990,

"Gravely concerned at the continued deterioration of the situation in the occupied territories,

"1. Deplores the refusal of the Israeli Government to receive the mission of the Secretary-General to the region;

"2. Urges the Israeli Government to reconsider its decision and insists that it comply fully with resolution 672 (1990) and to permit the mission of the Secretary-General to proceed in keeping with its purpose;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Council the report requested in resolution 672 (1990);

"4. Affirms its determination to give full and expeditious consideration to the report."

On 31 October, the Secretary-General submitted a report to the Security Council in accordance with resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990), (see S/21919 and Corr.1 and Add. 1-3). The Secretary-General informed the Council that it had not been possible to send a mission to the area to secure independent information on the spot about the circumstances surrounding the recent events in Jerusalem and similar developments in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. He provided information based on press and other reports and annexed reports submitted by Israeli and Palestinian human rights organizations, and by the Commission of Investigation established by the Israeli Government.

In the report, the Secretary-General made, inter alia, the following observations:

"The issue before us today is what practical steps can, in fact, be taken by the international community to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians living under Israeli occupation. Clearly, the numerous appeals - whether by the Security Council, by myself as Secretary-General, by individual Member States or by ICRC, which is the custodian of the Geneva Conventions - to the Israeli authorities to abide by their obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention have been ineffective. It is evident that for any measure of protection to be ensured, the co-operation of the Israeli authorities is, under the present circumstances, absolutely essential. Nevertheless, given the special responsibility of the high contracting parties for ensuring respect for the Convention, the Security Council might wish to call for a meeting of the high contracting parties to discuss possible measures that might be taken by them under the Convention. As regards the Palestinian appeals, referred to

in paragraph 20, for an impartial presence, properly mandated by the United Nations, this is a matter on which the Security Council would have to decide: the mandates for the United Nations personnel in the area, whether civilian or military, derive from the competent United Nations bodies and the Secretary-General does not have the competence to act on his own.

"It would be misleading to conclude this report - which has focused essentially on the need to ensure the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians living under Israeli occupation - without underlining that it is a political conflict that lies at the heart of the tragic events that led to the adoption of Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990). The determination of the Palestinians to persevere with the intifadah, is evidence of their rejection of the occupation and their commitment to exercise their legitimate political rights, including self-determination.

"It is essential, in these circumstances, that progress be made, and soon, to ensure an effective negotiating process, acceptable to all, that can secure the interest of both Israelis and Palestinians, and enable them to live in peace with each other. For my part, I will do whatever I can to be of help." (S/21919, paras. 24-26)

II. SECRETARY-GENERAL EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN AND SHOCK AT VIOLENCE AND BLOODSHED IN JERUSALEM: CITES DANGERS OF STALEMATE IN ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

The following statement (SG/SM/4502), attributable to the spokeswoman for the Secretary-General, was made on 8 October 1990:

"The Secretary-General has learned with grave concern of the violence which erupted today in the Old City of Jerusalem near holy sites sacred to both Muslims and Jews. According to initial press reports, 21 Palestinians were killed and 115 wounded; seven Israelis were also wounded.

"The Secretary-General is shocked and greatly dismayed by the bloodshed, and by what appears to have been an excessive use of force by the Israeli authorities. In his view, today's incidents are a tragic illustration of the dangers inherent in the stalemate that has far too long characterized the Israeli-Palestinian conflict."

On 22 October 1990, a further statement was issued. (see SG/SM/4509):

"The Secretary-General has learned with grave concern of the brutal stabbings in Jerusalem yesterday, and again today, that led to the deaths of three Israelis. He condemns all such acts of violence which can only deepen the bitterness and mistrust that already prevail in the area. He calls on all concerned to put an end to the violence and to exercise the utmost restraint."

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Committee met on 25 October 1990, at which time it adopted its report to the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The report contained the following recommendations:

> "The year under review was one in which great hopes gave way to increasing anxiety over the prospects for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East. The new and favourable opportunities for concerted international action towards this end created by the Palestinian peace initiative of November 1988 and by the international trends towards democratization and relaxation of tensions were thwarted by Israel's continued intransigence and policy of armed repression of the intifadah. The Gulf crisis in the latter part of 1990 has heightened tensions and has brought instability to an already troubled region. There is a serious threat of armed confrontation that could have grave repercussions for the entire region and for the question of Palestine.
>
> "The Committee considers that despite these disquieting events, international attention must remain focused on the imperative necessity to overcome the political and diplomatic stalemate that has hitherto blocked progress towards a settlement of the question of Palestine. The Committee reiterates once again its firm belief that such a settlement, in accordance with internationally recognized principles, is of fundamental importance for the achievement of peace and stability in the Middle East region. Noting the successful efforts to achieve consensus within the Security Council and particularly the constructive manner in which its permanent members are acting together to resolve regional conflicts, the Committee appeals to the Council to take concrete and effective action to pursue with renewed determination the peace process and endeavours to resolve

the Arab-Israeli conflict, the core of which is the question of Palestine.

"As the intifadah is about to enter its fourth year, the Committee salutes the brave Palestinian people, in particular its women and children, for the heroic struggle to end Israeli occupation and implement the proclamation of the independent Palestinian State of November 1988. The intifadah has affirmed clearly the determination of the Palestinian people to bring the occupation of their land to an end and to achieve the exercise of their inalienable rights and has also affirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The Committee reaffirms the international consensus that the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization on an equal footing with other parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict is indispensable in any efforts and deliberations aimed at the achievement of a lasting peace in the Middle East. It also calls once again for Palestine to be accorded its rightful place within the international community and the United Nations Organization. While the Committee notes with satisfaction that the intifadah has helped the progressive forces in Israel to intensify their efforts for a just peace, the Government of Israel has remained adamant. The Committee affirms that the continuing denial of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and independence is entirely unacceptable and constitutes a major danger to peace. It calls upon Israel to recognize and respect the national aspirations and rights of the Palestinian people and to recognize as well the desire of its own people to a future based on peace and justice.

"In the 15 years since the establishment of the Committee, an international consensus has gradually been achieved on the essential principles for a solution of the question of Palestine based on the attainment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. The Committee recalls that in its first report to the General Assembly, it had recommended modalities for the attainment of those rights (see annex I), later complemented by the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on the Question of Palestine held at Geneva in 1983. Developments since the beginning of the intifadah led to an even wider consensus, as shown by the near-unanimous adoption of General Assembly resolution 44/42. In that resolution the Assembly called once again for the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the

participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council, based on Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination. The Committee reaffirms the principles for the achievement of a comprehensive peace contained in that resolution, namely, the withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and from the other occupied Arab territories, guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including those named in General Assembly resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, within secure and internationally recognized boundaries, resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, and subsequent relevant resolutions, dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967, and guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites.

"The Committee deeply regrets Israel's continued rejection of the constructive proposals contained in that resolution, which have been explicitly accepted by the Palestine Liberation Organization. Further, the Committee calls upon those States which have thus far prevented the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/42 to reconsider their position and to join the international consensus. Concerned that the continued stalemate will further exacerbate tensions and encourage resort to extremism, the Committee recommends that the General Assembly should urge the Security Council, and in particular its permanent members, to consider measures needed to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, including the establishment of a preparatory committee, to consider guarantees for security measures for all States in the region, and to renew the mandate of the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned and, in consultation with the Security Council, to facilitate the convening of the Conference. The Committee expresses its support for every effort by the permanent members of the Security Council to bring the positions of the parties to the conflict closer to each other, to create a climate of confidence between them, and to facilitate in this way the convening and successful outcome of the International Peace Conference. Recent experience in the Security Council indicates that, given the necessary political will, the Council is able to achieve consensus on important matters of concern to the international community

in the area of international peace and security. The Committee urges the Council to address the question of Palestine with the same urgency and determination with a view to finding a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and its core, the question of Palestine.

"For its part, the Committee intends to continue to intensify its efforts towards this essential objective and to make it once again the focal point of its work programme in the coming year. The Committee considers that future regional seminars and NGO symposia and international NGO meetings organized under its auspices could make a valuable contribution by examining, with the assistance of experts from all regions, in particular Palestinians and Israelis, some of the more important and complex substantive issues that need to be addressed by the Conference.

"Pending progress towards a political settlement, however, the Committee urges once again that all necessary measures be taken immediately to protect the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem. The Committee has repeatedly drawn the attention of the Secretary-General, the General Assembly and the Security Council to Israel's non-acceptance of the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and to the persistent violation by Israel of its obligations as the occupying Power under that Convention. In the past year, those Israeli policies and practices have led to increasing casualties and the deterioration of already insufferable living conditions. A matter of special concern is the suffering inflicted on Palestinian women and children as a result of Israeli practices. The deportations of Palestinians, the increased restriction on freedom of movement and association, and the restrictions on educational institutions, health and social welfare organizations, as well as constant daily obstacles and harassments, have produced inhuman and intolerable conditions. The Committee considers that it is now imperative for the High Contracting Parties to the fourth Geneva Convention and for the United Nations system as a whole to ensure that Israel abide by its obligations. The Committee calls upon the Security Council to establish urgently an effective United Nations presence in the occupied territory with a legal mandate to protect the Palestinians therein. In this regard, the Committee endorses the proposed establishment by the Security Council of a United Nations observer force.

"The Committee is deeply concerned at the process of Israeli colonization of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, as manifested in the continued establishment of settlements, usurpation of land and water resources, and settler vigilantism. The growing influx of new immigrants exacerbates the situation. The Committee noted that the international community had vigorously opposed the Israeli policy of establishing settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, which was in contravention of the fourth Geneva Convention, had declared these actions null and void and had demanded that Israel dismantle the settlements and withdraw from the occupied territory. The Committee calls upon the Security Council to consider the matter again urgently and to undertake appropriate measures, in conformity with the fourth Geneva Convention and the relevant principles of the Charter of the United Nations, to deal with the situation.

"The Committee wishes to reaffirm that the United Nations has a duty and responsibility to render all assistance necessary to promote the social and economic development of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, in preparation for the full exercise of national sovereignty in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions. The Committee accordingly reiterates its call upon the organizations of the United Nations system as well as on Governments and on intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to sustain and increase their economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"The Committee noted with satisfaction the increased awareness and mobilization of international public opinion in support of the attainment of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and of United Nations recommendations for a comprehensive, just and lasting solution of the question of Palestine. The Committee believes that its programme of regional seminars and meetings and symposia of non-governmental organizations, as well as the journalists' encounters and other informational activities sponsored by the Committee, have played a valuable role in this process, and it will continue to strive to achieve maximum effectiveness in carrying out this programme and to intensify its efforts in the implementation of its mandate. Further, the Committee intends to continue and intensify its efforts to ensure that such meetings provide an opportunity for diverse points of view to be expressed so that a real

dialogue can be held among people of good will on all sides on the basis of relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. In this context, the Committee invites all Governments, including those of the United States of America and Israel, to participate in the work of the Committee and in the events organized by it." (See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 35 (A/45/35 and Corr.1), paras. 93-102)

IV. COMMUNIQUE OF THE MEETING OF THE CO-ORDINATING BUREAU OF THE MOVEMENT OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ON THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY, HELD AT NEW YORK, ON 9 OCTOBER 1990

"The Co-ordinating Bureau of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries met urgently on 9 October 1990 under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mr. Budimir Loncar, Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Yugoslavia, to consider the dangerous situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, especially Jerusalem.

"The Bureau learned with revolt and indignation of the use of firearms by members of Israeli armed forces and other Israeli nationals against unarmed Palestinian civilians in the precinct of Al Haram Al Shareef, at Jerusalem, on 8 October 1990, which resulted in the loss of 23 Palestinian lives and over 200 wounded. It strongly condemned this massacre, which is yet another criminal act committed against the suffering Palestinian people.

"The Bureau called upon the Security Council to take immediate and resolute action in order to implement its own resolutions regarding the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, as well as the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to establish urgently an effective United Nations presence with a legal mandate to protect the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation. Further on, the Bureau called upon non-aligned countries to take an active part in the deliberation of this issue in the Security Council.

"The Bureau was of the view that this Israeli brutal act generates additional tension in the occupied Palestinian territory and puts obstacles to the creation of the necessary conditions for the opening of the peace process. This tragic event brings forth the urgent need for the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the

attainment of the national rights of the Palestinian people in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

"The Bureau emphasized that the Security Council should proceed, as a matter of urgency, to take the necessary measures towards the convening of the International Peace Conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation, on an equal footing, of all the parties directly concerned, including the PLO, as well as the five permanent members.

"Bearing in mind the recent experience in the Security Council, which indicates that, given the necessary political will, the Council is able to achieve consensus on an important matter of concern to the international community, the Bureau encourages and supports every effort by the permanent and other members of the Security Council to bring the positions of the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict closer to each other, to create a climate of confidence between them, and to facilitate in this way the convening and successful outcome of the International Peace Conference." (see A/45/603-S/21858)

V. ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ISSUES STATEMENT ON EVENTS IN JERUSALEM

The following press release was issued by the OAU headquarters at Addis Ababa on 12 October 1990:

"The Organization of African Unity learned, with indignation and shock, of the massacre perpetrated on Monday, 8 October 1990, by the Israeli Security Forces in East Jerusalem that claimed the lives of more than 20 innocent Palestinian civilians and left hundreds injured.

"The OAU strongly condemns this act of oppression, which is a further indication of the complete insensitivity of Israeli authorities towards the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people and the stance of the international community.

"The OAU reaffirms, on this occasion, its support and solidarity with the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

"It reiterates its commitment to the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people so that a durable and just solution to the Middle East conflict could be attained."

VI. STATEMENT BY UNESCO DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE EVENTS IN JERUSALEM

The following press release was issued by Mr. Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO on 9 October 1990:

"The bloody events that have just taken place in Jerusalem have profoundly shocked me. I deplore the loss of human life they caused, and my heart goes out to the families of the victims in their grief.

"I likewise deplore what is revealed by such an explosion of violence. But UNESCO will never give up hope of peace. It will continue to work, by all means at its disposal, to ensure the return of calm, tolerance and dialogue in this region of the world, as in all those regions torn for so long by fratricidal conflicts no less terrible for being protracted."
(see OPI/NYO/90)

VII. UNRWA DEPLORES UNPRECEDENTED VIOLENCE IN ISRAELI-OCCUPIED TERRITORY: URGES RESTRAINT IN HANDLING DEMONSTRATIONS

The following press release was issued by UNRWA on 9 October 1990:

"The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) has deplored the level of violence used by Israeli forces against Palestinian protesters during and after the incidents at the Haram al-Sharif (Temple Mount) in Jerusalem on Monday, 8 October, in which at least 21 Palestinians were reported killed.

"Three more Palestinians were shot dead in the Gaza Strip and West Bank later on Monday when Israeli forces used live ammunition to disperse demonstrators protesting the deaths in Jerusalem.

"A statement issued at UNRWA's headquarters in Vienna expressed shock and dismay at the unprecedented level of violence seen in the occupied territory on Monday and called on the Israeli authorities to exercise restraint in handling demonstrations by Palestinians.

"As an international humanitarian agency responsible for the general welfare of the Palestine refugees, UNRWA deplores the use

of deadly force against civilian demonstrators, in Jerusalem and elsewhere in the occupied territory", the UNRWA statement said.

"UNRWA reported that two Palestinians in Gaza, from the Beit Lahia and Jabalia refugee areas, and one youth from Deir Amman refugee camp in the West Bank were shot dead by soldiers during protests Monday afternoon after the Jerusalem killings.

"UNRWA said that 177 Palestinians were wounded by soldiers in the Gaza protests. In Jerusalem, some 150 Palestinians were reported to be hospitalized with injuries suffered in Monday's clashes.

"The entire Gaza Strip and large areas of the West Bank were either under curfew or declared closed military areas on Tuesday, bringing life to a virtual standstill." (see PAL/1735)

VIII. EXCERPT FROM DECLARATION ON THE MIDDLE EAST BY EUROPEAN COUNCIL, 30 OCTOBER 1990

"The European Council reaffirms its long-standing commitment to a just solution to the other problems of the region and the determination of the Community and its member States to spare no efforts to that end.

"In this context, it intends to work for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the principles set out by the Community in its previous declarations. To this end, it repeats once again its support for the principle of the convening, at an appropriate time, of an international peace conference.

"The lack of any progress in the search for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a source of deep concern to the Community and its member States which are determined to encourage all efforts to promote dialogue between the parties directly concerned. The European Council welcomes United Nations Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990), reaffirms its support for the role that the United Nations can and should play in protecting the rights of the Palestinian people, and calls once more upon Israel to meet its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and to co-operate with the United Nations. The tragic events that have occurred in Jerusalem show once more that the status quo in the occupied territories is unsustainable. Just as the Community and its

member States deplored those events, so they express the same feelings concerning the tragic acts of violence committed against Israeli citizens. Reminding all concerned that violence breeds violence, they repeat their appeal for calm and restraint." (see A/45/700-S/21920)

IX. CONCLUSIONS OF REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

The Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories issued its twenty-second report to the Secretary-General for submission to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session (A/45/576). The report includes the following conclusions:

"464. Since its establishment in 1968, and in spite of repeated attempts to secure the co-operation of the Government of Israel, the Special Committee has consistently been denied such co-operation because of the extremely negative position of the Israeli authorities with regard to the Special Committee. During the period relevant to this report, the Government of Israel continued to withhold its co-operation from the Special Committee. However, the Special Committee benefited from the co-operation of the Governments of Egypt, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic, and of various Palestinian representatives. The Special Committee, having been precluded from visiting the occupied territories, conducted a series of meetings at Geneva, Damascus, Amman and Cairo in May and June of this year. At Geneva, Damascus, Amman and Cairo, it heard the evidence of persons who had first-hand knowledge and personal experience of the human rights situation in the occupied territories. In addition, the Special Committee followed the situation in the occupied territories on a day-to-day basis through reports appearing in the Israeli and Palestinian press. The Special Committee examined a number of valuable communications and reports from Governments, organizations and individuals concerning the occupied territories that reached it during the period under review.

"465. The conclusions contained in the present report are formulated on the basis of information reflected in the two periodic reports covering the period from 25 August to 30 November 1989 (A/45/84, sect. II) and from 1 December 1989 to 31 March 1990 (A/45/306, sect. II), as well as in section IV of the present report. It must be borne in mind, however, that the frequency and intensity of incidents which occurred during the period under consideration and the impressive amount of information on the human rights situation received and examined by the Special Committee did not permit its total reflection in these reports; the Special Committee has endeavoured within the constraints imposed by the specific regulations with regard to the length of United Nations documents to include in its reports, as faithfully as possible, samples of the information it has received in order to illustrate the total reality of the situation of human rights in the occupied territories during the period covered by these reports.

"466. The overall picture drawn from the information and evidence available to the Special Committee indicates an alarming trend towards the hardening of repression and the worsening of the already precarious human rights conditions of the Palestinian and other Arab civilian population in the occupied territories. Having noted the scope of this dramatic escalation, one may wonder to which extremes such violence may lead and which degree it would finally reach.

"467. These tragic developments derive from the basic reality, denounced by the Special Committee since the outset of its activities, that occupation in itself constitutes a violation of human rights. The Government of Israel, however, has not contented itself with consistently denying this fact. It has even gone beyond this and implemented the principle that some of the territories occupied by Israel in 1967 constitute a part of the State of Israel, thus annexing Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Arab Golan and imposing Israeli law over these territories. The policy of Israel has also led to various measures of annexation and establishment of settlements in the occupied territories, expropriation of property, transfer of Israeli citizens to the occupied territories, and inducing the Palestinian population, through various means, to leave their homeland. Such policy constitutes a flagrant violation of the international obligations of Israel as a State Party to the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, which stipulates that military occupation is to be considered as a temporary, de facto situation, giving no right whatsoever to the occupying Power over the territorial integrity of the occupied territories. Various illustrations of this Israeli attitude are to be found in the reports of the Special Committee, such as the declaration made on 16 October 1989 by the Industry Minister on the occasion of a ceremony held in Kfar Daroun settlement, to the effect that "Israel was telling the whole world that it intended to stay there for ever and to continue and develop the region by building more settlements and expanding the existing ones" (Ha'aretz, 17 October 1989; see A/45/84, para. 289). Another example reported in Ha'aretz and Jerusalem Post on 22 May 1990 is the earmarking of NIS 41 million ($21 million) for roads and settlements in the territories by the Knesset Finance Committee on 21 May 1990, and the allocation of NIS 5 million ($2.5 million) for increasing existing settlements and NIS 6 million ($3 million) for developing settlements in the Jordan Valley and the Golan (see para. 448 above). Mention can also be made of the new trend to settle new immigrants arriving in Israel in the occupied territories, as exemplified by the information reflected in Ha'aretz on 20 February 1990 according to which 52 families of immigrants from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had recently arrived in Ariel, and 70 families of immigrants from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics were to settle shortly in Maaleh Adrernim (see A/45/306, para. 354). Both of these settlements are in the occupied territories (see annex).

"468. The Israeli authorities have persisted and become even more determined in their will to quell the Palestinian uprising, described in September 1989 by the Justice Minister as "a war that Israel has to win" (see A/45/84, para. 12), through all available means. To this end, they have resorted to increasingly harsh measures. For instance, it was reported on 14 September 1989 by the Jerusalem Post that the IDF had issued new open-fire orders to soldiers serving in the territories. Under the new order, masked individuals were considered as suspects who could be shot at with live ammunition even if they were unarmed (see A/45/84, para. 10). This hardening of the Israeli policy was also conveyed through a wide range of other measures. In this connection, the Palestinian human rights group Al-Haq stated in a report published on 20 February 1990 that in the second year of the uprising "there was an increase in torture in detention ..., and significant increase in collective punishment". According to this report, there was "lawlessness at every level; soldiers on the street daily disregard instructions and regulations ... the military continues to legislate laws that are in violation

of the most basic international legal standards and norms of justice, the High Court of Justice continues to sanction fundamentally illegal legislation and practice" (see A/45/306, para. 20). These increasingly repressive measures also included stricter procedures for dealing with Palestinian minors, such as the sealing of houses or rooms belonging to parents of stone-throwing minors caught more than once, or the possibility to put on trial or to confiscate the property of parents refusing to pay fines imposed on them due to their children's stone-throwing (see A/45/306, para. 11).

" 469. One of the consequences of the occupying authorities resorting to such harsh means of repression has been the heavy toll of casualties among the civilians. The indiscriminate use of violence to counter the uprising has caused the deaths of hundreds of civilians of all ages (see tables contained in para. 20 of A/45/84, para. 22 of A/45/306, and para. 54 above). Several thousand Palestinians have suffered injuries. Particularly preoccupying has been the increasing amount of casualties among children. According to a Swedish-American report on injuries and casualties among Palestinian children under 16 during the first two years of the uprising, quoted in Ha'aretz on 18 May 1990, 159 children were killed during that period and some 50,000 were injured. Fifty-two per cent of the children killed had reportedly not taken part in any violent action and were not near the scene of protest actions when they were killed. Twenty-eight per cent were killed while watching or passing a demonstration, or while they were hanging flags, placing road-blocks, etc. (see para. 41 above).

" 470. Several witnesses testifying before the Special Committee referred to the climate of fear and anxiety resulting from this random use of violence. One witness, a medical doctor, stated in this regard "... I shall speak as a doctor practising in the Gaza sector and also as a citizen living through all the events, one day after the other. I shall start, giving you a description of any of my days in the Gaza sector. When I wake up early to go to work and before I leave my house, I bid goodbye to my wife and to my children, because I am never sure whether I shall be returning again or not. This is the situation in the Gaza Strip and in the West Bank. I may be killed by an Israeli soldier or I may be detained, or they might break my bones, or I might be one of the 'lost' people. So, my wife and I have started to plan how she would take care of herself and of the children, whatever the circumstances may be. Going to work, I do not feel like a doctor going to hospital, but rather like a soldier proceeding to battle." (See para. 56 above.) Another witness said in the same connection: "I can recall seeing children who had been on the streets, sitting on the porches of their houses and who had been shot, one shot in the head and one shot in the leg. Basically, I came to the conclusion that the violence was indiscriminate, that children were legitimate targets like any of the young men masked, unmasked, anybody" (see para. 57 above).

" 471. The mass slaying of Palestinian workers on 20 May 1990 in Rishon-Le-Zion, leading to the death of seven persons, and the resulting violence in which numerous Palestinians were killed and several hundred wounded, as referred to in paragraph 98 above, was another illustration of the level of violence and arbitrariness reached in the occupied territories. Another example was the firing of two tear-gas grenades, by an IDF officer, into the courtyard of an UNRWA clinic

in Gaza on 12 June 1990. In this incident, reported on 13 June in Ha'aretz and Jerusalem Post, 66 infants and nursing mothers packed in a waiting room were injured (see para. 117 above). In this context it is ironical to note that this officer after trial was sentenced to 10 days' lock-up penalty and that even this punishment was varied to a suspended lock-up term of 21 days by the IDF commander in the Gaza Strip (see para. 244 above).

" 472. In addition to the physical hardship caused by this indiscriminate resort to violence and characterized, as mentioned above, by numerous losses of life, severe beating often resulting in broken bones, casualties caused by tear-gas thrown into confined areas, the denial of adequate medical care to the injured, and various other forms of harassment, the period under consideration also witnessed very serious psychological damage which affect a civilian population daily confronted with fear and humiliation. Children have been particularly traumatized by this situation, as stressed by a witness who referred in her testimony to the sufferings of schoolchildren: "... the fear and nervousness in them, I could see it. Our school was next to a police station. Whenever they would hear a loud noise or a siren or any kind of unexpected noise, the whole class would become almost out of control. They would say 'the army is coming, the army is coming, what are we going to do.' The fear that gripped these students at the slightest provocation, as the slightest noise, was incredible ..." (see para. 263 above).

" 473. During the period under consideration, serious shortcomings were also noticeable in the area of the administration of justice. Flagrant violations of the fundamental right of all persons to equality before the courts and tribunals have been observed. A clear illustration can be found in the contrast between the sentencing, reported by Ha'aretz and Jerusalem Post on 28 December 1989, of two Palestinians aged 19 and 22 to eight-and-a-half years' imprisonment and eight years' suspended term each for stoning a car in which the Defence Minister was travelling (see A/45/306, para. 137), as opposed to the verdict of five months imprisonment and seven months suspended sentence imposed on 1 May 1990 on Rabbi Moshe Levinger who, during an incident on 30 September 1988, had opened fire after his car had been stoned, killing Kayed Salah causing grievious bodily harm to another Palestinian, Ibrahim Bali, and deliberately causing material damage. In this connection, it should be noted that Rabbi Levinger was released from jail on 14 August 1990 after serving three and a half months only (see para. 239 above). Numerous violations of the right to a fair trial were also observed during that period; reference can be made in this regard to the report on the military justice system in the territories prepared by the human rights organisation Betselem, which, according to the Jerusalem Post of 12 December 1989 claimed that Palestinians arrested during the uprising were kept in prison for months until their trials were completed due to bureaucratic delays in West Bank military courts. Few defendants were released on bail and imprisonment for the duration of legal proceedings had become an accepted form of punishment. The report listed several other IDF practices which were alleged to be illegal, such as the failure to notify families of the arrest and place of incarceration of their relatives; the transfer of prisoners from one detention centre to another without documentation or notification to their lawyers or families; the prohibition of lawyers from meeting clients at temporary detention facilities inside military bases; and the holding of most remand hearings without the presence of a defence lawyer (see A/45/306,

para. 137). Among other shortcomings in the administration of justice mention must be made of the practice of arrest without charges for preventive or administrative detention; the practice of extracting confessions under duress; the denial of the right of lawyers to represent detainees, in particular in Ketziot detention camp; the denial of access of the accused or his lawyers to "secret" charges brought against him; as well as the arbitrary detention of family members of detained persons as a means of exerting psychological pressure upon them. One clear illustration of the shortcomings in the administration of justice in the occupied territories is the case of Muhammad and Yusuf Ankawi who, on 7 August 1990, appealed to the military court in Ramallah after being convicted of several security offences and sentenced to seven and nine years imprisonment, respectively. Their convictions and sentencing had taken place two years and two months after their arrest. During their detention period the court did not hold even one hearing in their case, and scheduled hearings were postponed 20 times due to the absence of witnesses, or for other reasons (see para. 231 above).

"474. The Special Committee has also noted cases in which dual punishment has been imposed on Palestinians who, in addition to receiving harsh sentences, have had their house demolished by the Israeli authorities. An illustration can be found in the punishment imposed on Salim al-Amudi, sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of an alleged collaborator, and whose house in Gaza was demolished on 14 June 1990, as reported in Jerusalem Post on 15 June 1990 (see para. 285 above). On various occasions the houses of mere suspects have been demolished, as in the case of Abdul Hakim a-Shammar, suspected of having murdered alleged collaborators, and whose house in Khan Yunis was demolished on 11 June 1990 (see para. 285 above). It should be noted that in both instances this measure also affects innocent people living in these houses and constitutes collective punishment, which is prohibited by the Fourth Geneva Convention. For example, 12 people used to live in Abdul Hakim a-Shammar's demolished house, and 26 people in that of Salim al-Amudi.

"475. The large number of Palestinians detained as a result of the uprising has contributed to a further aggravation of the situation and has adversely affected the treatment of prisoners. According to the head of the military court of appeals in the territories, and as reported in Ha'aretz and Jerusalem Post on 18 June 1990, there were at that time 10,416 Palestinian prisoners in 23 army detention facilities, of whom 1,031 were administrative detainees (see para. 216 above). Palestinian detainees have continued to be held in prisons and detention camps inside Israel itself, in violation of relevant provisions of article 76 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Detainees have been submitted to various forms of torture or ill-treatment such as beatings, deprivation of sleep, psychological stress and humiliation, isolation in solitary confinement, soaking in cold water in rigourous weather conditions and in some instances even sexual assault. Among problems frequently referred to were the overcrowding of cells, the lack of sanitary facilities, inadequate food or clothing, collective punishment measures, harassment of prisoners by collaborators. Several hunger strikes aimed at ameliorating the treatment of detainees had been organized in order to protest against such conditions. The specific problems faced by women prisoners and the conditions of detention of minors are also a subject of deep concern. As regards child detainees, reference can be made to the report by Betzelem published on

26 June 1990 entitled "Violence against Minors in Police Detention", which reviewed conditions in the lock-ups at the Russian Compound and at the police station in the Old City of Jerusalem. According to the report, almost every minor interviewed testified that he had been beaten; some minors had been held for hours in what they called "the closet", a very narrow cell one metre long; other testimonies described "the grave", a sunken box-like cell covered by an iron door, in which handcuffed inmates could only sit bent out. During the period under consideration in the year 1989-1990, 1,814 minors aged 13-17 had been held in these two police facilities (see para. 429 above).

" 476. Various measures of harassment have continued to be implemented against the civilian population during the period under review, including the extension and intensification of practices of collective punishment, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The demolition of houses for alleged security reasons or lack of building permit continued to be practiced on a very large scale. It was pointed out in one of the testimonies that "... the reasons for security demolitions were very much loosened in 1989. So, we had landlords losing their house because they had rented to someone who was arrested on a security violation, people who were never arrested found that their houses were demolished because they were wanted by the authorities. We had cases of mentally disturbed people, people who would actually need medical attention in a mental hospital, having their house destroyed. We also have cases of distant relatives of a suspect having their house destroyed ..." (see para. 283 above). As regards the demolition of houses for lack of building permit, it was reported by the Jerusalem Post on 24 August 1990 that, according to a report by Betzelem, the number of construction permits for West Bank inhabitants had dropped, over the past decade, from 2,000 to 400 per year, and that, as a result, some 13,000 houses had been built without a permit and were at risk of being demolished (see para. 53 above).

" 477. Prolonged curfews continued to be imposed in several areas in the occupied territories. Economic sanctions were also often used, bringing an additional burden to a population already living under very harsh economic and social conditions. One well-known example of such sanctions, which provoked an international protest campaign, was the operation against the tax revolt in Beit Sahour, in the course of which over NIS 3 million ($1.5 million) worth of property was seized from residents refusing to pay taxes, and about 60 local merchants were arrested, some of whom were convicted and fined for failing to file tax reports. During the operation, which lasted for six weeks, the town was closed to outsiders, placed under intermittent curfew and had all telephone lines cut off (see A/45/84, paras. 217-229). A witness referred in her testimony to this deliberate policy of economic pressure and harassment against the civilian population: "... tax officials, supported by Israeli soldiers, raid the village almost every day in order to seize property by force. Residents are arrested at check-points on the charge of travelling without an identity card or if their names appear on a list of persons who have not paid their taxes." (See para. 340 above.)

" 478. Another measure implemented during that period by the occupying authorities in contradiction with the provision of article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention is the expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories, for alleged security reasons. On 27 August 1989, five more West Bank residents were deported after the

High Court of Justice rejected petitions against the deportation (see A/45/84, para. 237). The wave of protests and the pressure of international public opinion has succeeded in bringing the expulsion of Palestinians for alleged security reasons to a temporary halt during the recent months. However, the period under consideration has witnessed new measures implemented by the Israeli occupation authorities and affecting women without valid residence permit and their children. In most cases, women born in the occupied territories, who had lived abroad for a certain period of time, but had later married Palestinians in the occupied territories and had lived there for several years and given birth to children in the occupied territories, had been denied the right to reside and were deported without prior warning, usually under humiliating and harsh conditions. This was described in the following terms by one of the witnesses heard by the Special Committee: "When they started expelling people, the occupation forces came at 2 o'clock in the morning. They told me that I had to go to Amman. I said 'would you wait until the morning, because I have small children' and it was also very cold. They said no, that I had to go right away, to the extent that I went out in my nightdress. I was not even able to get decently dressed. They took us to the school of the village, put us in an army truck and brought us to Ramallah at 5 o'clock in the morning. We stayed in front of the office of the military commander from 5 o'clock in the morning until 1 o'clock in the afternoon, then they put us in another car and took us to the bridge. They took us to the bridge and expelled us from the occupied territories." (See para. 349 above.) On 5 June 1990 a new military government policy was announced under which some 250 women and children who were forced to leave the West Bank in 1989 for lack of residence status would be permitted to return. However, up to 20 June 1990, only one group of four expelled women and their children had been allowed to return (see para. 353 above).

"479. Another new punitive measure recently approved by the Israeli Defence authorities is the "conditional banishment" of persons alleged to be leading activists of the uprising. Under this measure, such persons would be banished from their region of residence to another region in the occupied territories for a fixed period, without their families. The person would be under close surveillance throughout the banishment period, and would only be allowed to return home at the end of the fixed period if the authorities were satisfied that he was not an activist. If not he would again be banished to another region (see para. 46 above). The legal aspects of this measure are reportedly being examined by the Israeli Judge Advocate General. If implemented, this punitive measure would constitute a serious human rights violation, as reprehensible as the arbitrary expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories.

"480. The reports of the Special Committee covering the period under review also contain information on measures affecting the enjoyment of various other fundamental freedoms. In this context, reference has already been made to the systematic recourse to curfews. Additionally the Israeli authorities also use magnetic cards in order to control and restrict the freedom of movement of the civilian population. A doctor who appeared before the Special Committee stated in this regard: "Without the magnetic card, you cannot travel within Israel or in the Gaza Strip. To issue the magnetic card, they check whether you owe any taxes. If you do owe taxes, you are asked to pay. If you don't pay the taxes, you can't have

this magnetic card. Then even if I have a patient in Israel, I cannot visit him." (See para. 364 above.) Individual arbitrary measures have also restricted the exercise of the right to freedom of movement, and various personalities have been prohibited from travelling abroad.

"481. The right to freedom of religion has also been affected by several incidents, such as the one reported on 6 March 1990 by the Jerusalem Post concerning the charge by residents of Kifl Harith that settlers who visited "Joshua's Tomb" in the village had vandalised an adjacent Moslem shrine after having been attacked by stone-throwers. The settlers had allegedly torn Koran volumes and cloth curtains bearing Koran verses (see A/45/306, para. 310).

"482. The right to freedom of expression was also curtailed by various measures such as the closure of newspapers, the censorship and obstacles to the distribution of newspapers, the storming of newspaper offices and the harassment of journalists.

"483. Freedom of education in particular has been severely restricted as a result of prolonged closures of academic institutions. The long-term effects of this situation are particularly disturbing, and the consequential deterioration of academic standards and psychological stress in the educational process have been emphasized by several witnesses. One of them stated the following in this regard: "The small children, as well as the college and university students, are subjected to circumstances that have led to a deterioration of the academic standard in general. ... Actually, a war is being waged, because the intention is to bring down the level of academic achievements ..." (see para. 385 above). Another stressed the negative effects of a six-month school closure on the students: "after that six month period, I would not call them illiterate, but ... the consequences were disastrous and quite alarming to me as an educator. Basically they had gone back two grades in that six month period." (See para. 385.) Another witness said in the same connection "I feel terrible that this generation, that we call the generation of the Israeli occupation, is facing a disaster, because illiteracy, this kind of illiteracy by force, is terribly affecting this young Palestinian generation ... There is a very cruel change in the psychological make up of these young ones ... Studying their behaviour, you find many wrong things with them, a strong feeling of injustice, all those psychological hang-ups resulting from growing up under the circumstances of the occupation ... It is as if their heads were void of anything but the soldiers, the occupation, the feeling of injustice, of oppression" (see para. 385 above).

"484. During the period under consideration, acts of violence and aggression by Israeli settlers against the civilian population continued to occur on a wide scale. Illustrative of this behaviour is the incident which took place on 25 May 1990, during which six armed students of a Yeshiva in Kiryat Arba entered a military area, beat several villagers and fired in the air. Four students were detained but later released after a questioning by the police (see para. 411 above). The decision, reported on 9 April 1990 by Ha'aretz made by the Central Region Commander and approved by the Chief of Staff, to send a settlers' reserve unit for operative service into the West Bank (see para. 39 above) is another disturbing development, taking into account the aggressive behaviour of most settlers towards the civilians in the occupied territories. Another clear example

of the aggressive behaviour of Israeli civilians against Palestinians is the mass slaying of Palestinian workers in Rishon-Le-Zion (see also para. 471 above). This mass slaying occurred on 20 May 1990, when a young Israeli civilian, Ami Popper, armed with the IDF rifle belonging to his brother, came to an area where Palestinian workers gather to be picked up by Israeli employers. He ordered the workers to produce their ID cards. He then stopped a car with a Gaza licence-plate and ordered the driver to step out, leaving the car engine running, and opened automatic fire at the workers, killing seven. He then fled in the car he had stopped but was later apprehended.

"485. Finally, the reports of the Special Committee also contain information on the situation in the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, where serious incidents continue to occur. Reports mentioned several arrests, the use of tear-gas to disperse demonstrators, beatings, breaking into houses, as well as the establishment of a new settlement (see A/45/84, para. 295, and A/45/306, paras. 357-359). A witness who came from the occupied Syrian Arab Golan referred to these difficult conditions in her testimony: "Young people are being beaten up, and also older people, religious people, the ulemas, are beaten up from time to time. Mothers, when they come to defend their children who are beaten up by the soldiers, are also beaten up. My family suffered last year, especially last year. One of my brothers was playing outside the house and then he joined the demonstration of the youth in the area. Eventually, the soldiers caught up with him at home and he was beaten up. My father, who was also in the house, was also beaten up and he is 70 years old. ... The tear-gas is practically a daily occurrence, and the beating is also a daily occurrence, whenever there are demonstrations. When they cannot catch somebody right away, he is usually bombarded with the tear-gas bomb and then he is arrested and taken to jail. ... We are not allowed to cultivate anything anymore. All agricultural goods are imported and we have to pay the prices set by the occupation authorities. ... We do not have free health service. ... Generally, there are very strong pressures from the occupation authorities in order to buy the land from the people at prices imposed by the occupation authorities, and that in order to set this land apart for the Israeli settlements." (See paras. 454, 457, 458 and 459 above.)

"486. Such developments lead the Special Committee to conclude that the period under consideration, from 25 August 1989 to 31 August 1990, had been marked by a further escalation of the tension in the occupied territories, which has now reached a very dangerous level and could result, if urgent measures are not taken in order to remedy the grave human rights violations and ensure an effective protection of basic rights and freedoms, to a major explosion in the area. In view of the extreme gravity of the situation, and the dangerous threat it represents to international peace and security, the Special Committee once again stresses the need to arrive through negotiations at a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict which would take into account the rights of all peoples in the area, including the national rights of the Palestinian people.

"487. In the mean time the tragic conditions in the occupied territories can bear no further delay. The Special Committee therefore wishes to recommend once more the implementation of urgent measures which would safeguard the basic human rights of

the Palestinian people and other Arabs in the occupied territories. Such measures could include the following:

"(a) The full application, by Israel, of the relevant provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, which remains the main international instrument in humanitarian law that applies to the occupied territories, and whose applicability to those territories has repeatedly been reaffirmed by the Security Council, the General Assembly and other relevant organs of the United Nations;

"(b) The full compliance with all resolutions pertinent to the question of Palestine as adopted by the Security Council and the General Assembly as well as other relevant resolutions adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Health Organization and the International Labour Organization;

"(c) The convening of an international conference under United Nations auspices with the participation of all the parties concerned;

"(d) The full co-operation of the Israeli authorities with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in order to protect detained persons, in particular by ensuring full access of ICRC representatives to such persons;

"(e) The full support, by Member States, of the activities of the ICRC in the occupied territories, and positive response by Member States to eventual appeals for additional assistance including funds to finance the extra activities required by the unprecedented increase in the number of detained persons;

"(f) The full support, by Member States, of UNRWA activities in the occupied territories in order to enable UNRWA to improve the general assistance provided to the refugee population;

"(g) The total co-operation of the Israeli authorities with UNRWA representatives and full respect by the Israeli authorities of the privileges and immunities which this Agency enjoys as an international body providing humanitarian services to Palestinian refugees in the occupied territories." (See A/45/576)

X. UNRWA APPEALS FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO CONTINUE "INDISPENSABLE ASSISTANCE" TO PALESTINE REFUGEES

The following press release was issued by UNRWA on 15 October 1990:

"The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Giorgio Giacomelli, has appealed to the international community for support in providing "indispensable assistance" to Palestine refugees. His appeal, made in his annual report to the General Assembly which was issued in New York today, comes as the Agency faces mounting pressure to provide vital services for Palestine refugees, many of whom have been uprooted again in the Gulf crisis.

"His report, written before the current crisis and covering the period 1 July 1989 to 30 June 1990, points to the continued violence and increasing economic hardship which many Palestinians face. Mr. Giacomelli said that during the year some 23,000 Palestinians had been displaced by turmoil in Lebanon, and that 249 had been killed and more than 23,000 injured in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, leading to an ongoing need for UNRWA's emergency services. He warned that lack of funds could jeopardize this emergency aid.

"He wrote: 'Elsewhere in the area of operations, the difficulties confronted by the largest number of refugees related to the economic situation prevailing in the host countries as well as in most other countries in the region. Skilled and semi-skilled Palestinians who had found employment outside Jordan and Syria, particularly in the Gulf States, returned in increasing numbers to their families with resulting loss of income and likelihood of continued unemployment.'

"Mr. Giacomelli said UNRWA had to manage its finances carefully so that the Agency could operate its emergency programme in Lebanon, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as conduct regular education, health and relief and social services for more than 2 million refugees there and in Jordan and Syria.

"The Commissioner-General stated that by mid-1990, UNRWA still needed some $12 million to continue the emergency programme until the end of this year. A new injection of funds was also required to carry on the programme in 1991.

"He said he was 'profoundly concerned' that lack of funds could result in this indispensable assistance to refugees being cut or brought to a halt 'within a matter of weeks.'

"On education, the Commissioner-General's report states that in the 1989-1990 school year, UNRWA's education programme enrolled some 358,000 pupils in 631 elementary and preparatory schools and 5,000 students in eight vocational and teacher training centres. In the West Bank, schools were permitted to reopen in July 1989 after lengthy closures ordered by the occupation authorities. But teaching continued to be seriously affected by curfews, strikes and individual closure orders, and the school year itself was shortened by 69 days. A major bright spot for UNRWA was the reopening of its three training centres in the West Bank this spring after closures of more than two years.

"There was no prolonged general closure of schools in the Gaza Strip, but schools there also suffered from curfews, disturbances, strikes and individual closure orders, according to the report. In Lebanon, schools continued to operate amidst chronic instability which caused frequent forced movements of people and prolonged local school closures.

"In the health field, the report states that events in the occupied territory created a high demand for emergency and casualty care. The Agency gave extra training to medical personnel, equipped its clinics to deal with large numbers of wounded and evacuated the most serious casualties to hospital. Most Agency clinics operated an additional shift, and five clinics in Gaza remained open 24 hours a day. During 1989, there were some 5.9 million patient visits to UNRWA clinics Agency-wide for medical and dental treatment.

"As to relief and social services, the report states that, faced with continued violence, rising unemployment and the falling buying power of incomes, more and more refugees turned to UNRWA for help. By the end of June, the number of refugees registered as special hardship cases had risen to 151,860, or 7.8 per cent of the refugees eligible for services. UNRWA continued helping poorer families to become financially independent by starting small businesses. By this summer, loans had been made to 494 enterprises in UNRWA's area of operations. Under the emergency programme, cash assistance was given to those with longer-term needs, and food, primarily flour, was distributed to needy families.

"General humanitarian assistance was provided to refugees by UNRWA international staff members -- legal and refugee affairs officers -- in the West Bank and Gaza. They facilitated Agency

operations, assisted the refugees in their day-to-day life and sometimes helped to lower tensions and to prevent maltreatment of refugees.

"In the Report, the Commissioner-General draws attention to repeated violations of Agency premises by the Israeli security forces and to harassment of local staff. Unauthorized entry by the Israeli authorities into Agency premises increased, resulting in staff being injured or property damaged in several cases. More than 550 intrusions into Agency premises were recorded in the Gaza Strip and almost 200 in the West Bank during the year." (see PAL/1736)

The Report of the Commissioner is contained in document A/45/13. (Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 13)

XI. EXCERPT FROM THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE NINETEENTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, HELD AT CAIRO FROM 31 JULY TO 5 AUGUST 1990

"The Conference reaffirmed its full solidarity and support of the just cause of the Palestinian people to restore their inalienable national rights including their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to the establishment of their own independent State on their national soil with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

"The Conference saluted the blessed Intifadah against the Israeli occupation and expressed its full support to the heroic steadfastness as symbolised by the intifadah which has continued and foiled all the attempts of the Israeli forces aiming at its liquidation.

"The Conference strongly condemned the policy of terror and oppression launched by the Zionist entity against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories which has resulted in gross and flagrant violations of the fundamental human rights of the Palestinian people.

"The Conference demanded that Israel abide scrupulously by the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949 and desist from those practices which are in violation of the provisions of the Convention.

"The Conference also urged the parties signatory to the Convention to guarantee the respect by Israel, as the occupying power, to the Convention in all circumstances conforming to their obligations under Article I thereof.

"The Conference paid a warm tribute to the Palestinian people who have through their innumerable sacrifices and sufferings set new examples of courage and fortitude and thus compelled the international community to give urgent attention to their just cause.

"The Conference expressed its grave concern on the massive transfer of Jews from the Soviet Union to Israel and their settlement in occupied Palestinian territories. It urged the international community particularly the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United States of America and European States to take due account of the implications of this massive immigration into occupied Palestine which is in flagrant violation of international law particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

"The Conference considered that this Soviet Jewish immigration to Palestine would flout the rights of the Palestinian people, alter the demographic composition of the occupied Palestine and gravely imperil the prospects of peace in the region. Moreover, it would encourage the Zionist entity to pursue its nefarious plans to establish a "Greater Israel" and thus threaten international peace and security.

"The Conference expressed its serious concern on the policy pursued by the new Government in Israel, which has not hesitated to demonstrate its contempt for all peace efforts and on the contrary considers war as a means to get Israel out of its present predicament.

"The Conference welcomed the recognition of the independent State of Palestine by a large number of States and reaffirmed its support for the Declaration of Independence and the political programme adopted by the Palestinian National Council at its Nineteenth Extraordinary Session.

"The Conference reaffirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people is alone entitled to represent them and participate on their behalf, independently and on an equal footing in all Conferences and activities dealing with the Question of Palestine.

"The Conference strongly emphasized the need to place the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967 including Al-Quds Al-Sharif under the supervision of the United Nations for a limited period, as part of the peace process and to ensure the protection of the Palestinian citizens and their property.

"The Conference stressed that the Palestine question is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and reiterated the urgent need to convene the International Conference for Peace in the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council, and all parties to the conflict on an equal footing, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its capacity as the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people; to achieve total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their independent Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.

"The Conference urged the Security Council to consider measures needed to convene the International Peace Conference on the Middle East, including the establishment of a Preparatory Committee, and to consider guarantees for security measures agreed upon by the Peace Conference for all States in the region.

"The Conference reaffirmed its commitment to the principle of the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force, and held the view that Zionist settlements in all the occupied territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif are null and void as well as illegal, and their establishment constitutes a blatant violation of all international norms and conventions particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949.

"The Conference requested the OIC Member States to abide by the resolutions adopted by Islamic Conferences and called upon them to refrain from establishing any kind of relations with Israel and stressed the need for contesting the credentials of the Israeli delegation to all sessions of the United Nations General Assembly.

"The Conference deplored the decision of the United States of America to suspend its dialogue with the PLO and requested the U.S. Administration to reconsider its decision and to resume the dialogue so as to further the peace process in the Middle East, which requires the adoption of impartial stand and recognition of the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people. The Conference expressed its appreciation for the United Nations, its

Secretary-General, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organization of African Unity and to all peoples and forces of the world which have supported the Palestinian cause at international fora and uphold the struggle of the Palestinain people and their blessed Intifadah, and denounced the policy of the Zionist entity and its oppressive practices in the occupied territories.

"The Conference expressed its appreciation to the Holy See and to the members of the European Economic Community for their positive role and their ongoing efforts to convene an International Conference for Peace in the Middle East; for their stand in favour of the Palestinian cause, and their endorsement of the PLO peace initiative and called upon these countries to take a further step and recognize the independent State of Palestine.

"The Conference voiced the deep concern at the conditions in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon and denounced and condemned the brutal raids and repeated assaults launched by the Zionist enemy against those Camps and its continued occupation of Southern Lebanon.

"The Conference reiterated the total commitment of the Islamic Ummah to all the resolutions of the Al-Quds Committee which reaffirmed its determination of the Islamic Ummah to safeguard the Arab and Islamic character of the Holy City, and its pledge to strive to liberate it.

"The Conference also expressed its total rejection of all measures taken by Israel to annex the Holy City and its proclamation as the eternal capital for the Zionist entity; and voiced its deep concern at the escalation by the Zionist enemy of its criminal practices against the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa. The Conference invited all States which have diplomatic relations with Israel to refrain from transferring their Embassies and Agencies to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif.

"The Conference also expressed its appreciation for the efforts exerted by the Al-Quds committee, chaired by His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and took note of the recommendations adopted by this Committee in April 1990 to meet the challenges of Soviet Jewish immigration to occupied Palestine.

"The Conference reaffirmed the importance of the "Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf" in supporting the Palestinian people in the occupied territories; and invited Member States to contribute to the capital of the Fund and its Waqf.

"The Conference considered that the Strategic Alliance between the United States of America and Israel was a factor which has escalated tension in the region."
(see A/45/421-S/21797)

At the Conference, the following resolutions relative to Palestine were adopted:

"Resolution No. 1/19-P on the Intifadah of the Palestinian people in Occupied Palestine

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the OIC,

"Pursuant to all relevant Islamic resolutions,

"Reafffirming the principle of enhancing Islamic solidarity with the cause of Palestine as the primary cause of the Muslims,

"Recalling the resolutions adopted by the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council on the situation prevailing in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, particularly the U.N. Security Council Resolutions Nos. 465, 605, 607, 608 641,

"Taking into consideration the applicability of all the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, concluded on 12 August, 1949, to the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Referring to the grave danger inherent in the process of organized mass transfer of Soviet and other Jews to the occupied Palestinian territories and the Syrian Arab Golan and the other occupied Arab territories,

"Expressing its deep concern over the serious situation prevailing in the occupied Arab and Palestinian Territories as a result of continued Israeli Occupation, and of Israel's arbitrary practices, repressive measures, continuing confiscation of Arab Land and property to build new settlements, escalation of the policy of deportation, blasting of houses and imposition of collective sanctions on the inhabitants, and desecration of Islamic and Christian holy places,

"Recalling the increasing support of the international community to the Palestinian Intifadah and its stand by the legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people,

"Taking into consideration the deteriorating economic conditions and the need to provide all forms of material and political support to strengthen the steadfastness of the Palestinian people and continue their blessed intifada:

"1. Hails the Palestinian people and reaffirms its total solidarity with their continuing struggle, and expresses pride in the blessed intifadah;

"2. Calls for providing all forms of support to the Palestinian people and their blessed intifadah to enable them to end the Israeli occupation and to establish their independent State, Palestine, and exercise their sovereignty on their national soil with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital;

"3. Strongly condemns Israel's policy based on continued occupation, expansionism, and denial of the national rights of the Palestinian people and strongly condemns Israel's repressive practices, violations of human rights and international law, confiscation of land and property, establishment of settlers' colonies, deportation of citizens and blowing up their houses, uprooting fruit-bearing trees, the closure of schools and universities, and imposition of an economic blockade on the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

"4. Condemns the use of Veto by the United States of America against plans concerning international protection for Palestinian citizens, and requests it to take a just, balanced and unbiased political stand vis-à-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict which will help in achieving a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East;

"5 (A) Requests the states Party to the Fourth Geneva Convention to set up a "Protection Force" to protect the Palestinian people under occupation and requests the U.N. to send international observers to the Occupied Territories to monitor the racist practices perpetrated by Zionist occupation forces against the Palestinian people in their own occupied land, in violation of all international norms and instruments, particularly, the Declaration of Human Rights and the Geneva Convention of 1949, and calls upon the U.N. and the Security Council to provide the necessary international protection for Palestinian citizens in the Occupied Palestinian Territories;

(B) Calls on the Islamic Group at the UN to include a special item in the Agenda on the Summit Conference on Children, dealing with the position of Palestinian children living under Israeli occupation;

"6. Calls upon the United Nations, its various organs, and all peace-loving countries and forces to intensify efforts with the aim of compelling occupation authorities to:

(i) Release all detainees;

(ii) Return all deportees, abolish deportation policy and allow wives and children who have been dispersed to come back and also to respond to all applications for regrouping of families;

(iii) Abolish the Green Card and all restrictions on freedom of movement;

(iv) Abolish all forms of collective sanctions including imposition of curfews, closing some regions and cutting off water and electricity supplies;

(v) Disallow settlement of Jewish immigrants in the Occupied Palestinian Territories as well as the establishment of new settlements, and consider all settlements already established in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, including those established in Al-Quds Al-Sharif, as null and void and must be removed;

(vi) Put an end to the destruction and sealing of houses, and allow rebuilding of demolished ones; stop the uprooting of trees and remove restrictions on the planting of fruit trees;

(vii) Refrain from utilizing the underground water and natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and remove restrictions imposed on the natural right of the Palestinians to use them;

(viii) Discontinue the levying of taxes, remove taxation barriers and put an end to tax-collecting raids which are used as an instrument of repression against the Palestinian people;

(ix) Remove restrictions and limitations imposed on the export of national Palestinian products;

(x) Put a stop to the raiding of hospitals and health institutions and the detention of their staff and patients; allow the World Health Organisation to exercise its responsibility and deal directly with the Palestinian health institutions;

(xi) Reopen all the closed educational institutions and stop provocative practices against them, as well as remove restrictions imposed on academic freedom and schooling;

(xii) Reopen all closed press establishments, research centres, trade and vocational unions;

(xiii) Give access to the Occupied Territories to local and foreign information media so that they may play their role in monitoring the behaviour of occupation authorities their repressive practices and violations of human rights;

(xiv) Stop desecrating the places of worship, and depriving people of their right to practice their religious rites;

"7. Reaffirms the projects concerning the Intifadah adopted by the Eighteenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers in its resolution 1/18-P paragraph 6, namely:

(a) To facilitate the setting up of 'Committee for the Triumph of Palestine' throughout the Muslim World and to continue to give urgent official and popular support to the Palestinian people in Occupied Palestine, so as to enable them to pursue their legitimate struggle through available channels in coordination with the Palestine Liberation Organisation;

(b) To issue a token-valued "Intifadah Stamp", depicting heroic acts of the stone-throwing children, the proceeds of which should be transferred to the Intifadah Fund of the Palestine Liberation Organisation;

(c) To hold a Football Tournament to be designated as the "Palestinian Intifadah Cup" in which all Muslim States would participate, the proceeds of which should be remitted to the Intifadah Fund of the Palestine Liberation Organization;

(d) To implement and finance the project for the production of 'Umbrellas' with a picture of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the 'Dome of the Rock' printed on them and bearing along their edges the expression 'Al-Quds is calling you' in Arabic, English and French;

(e) To provide the General Secretariat with the required assistance for the implementation of the 'Islamic Information Programme in support of the Intifadah of the heroic Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian Territories' which was adopted by the First Islamic Conference of Information Ministers held on 12 October 1988, in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

(f) To invite all Muslims and preachers in mosques throughout the Muslim world to enhance Islamic awareness of the

Jihad of the Palestinian people and their heroic Intifadah within Occupied Palestine;

"8. Urges the Ambassadors of Islamic States to the capitals of the world to continue their efforts with official and information circles so that they may continue to express solidarity with the Palestinian people, denounce and condemn the racist Israeli crimes and call for their cessation;

"9. Expresses its gratitude and appreciation to all the states, popular and international organisations and information media, which have declared their solidarity with the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifadah, strongly denounced the brutal Israeli crimes and publicised them openly and officially to inform thereof world public opinion;

"10. Mandates the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of the provisions of this resolution at Islamic level, maintain his contacts with the U.N. Secretary-General and international and regional organisations and bodies, and co-ordinate with them, with a view to implementing International Security Council resolutions Nos. 605, 607 and 608 to ensure international protection for the Palestinian people and the implementation of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War."

"Resolution No. 2/19-P on the Transfer of Soviet Jews to the Occupied Palestinian Territories

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Affirming the continuing enhancement of Islamic solidarity and the commitment of the Islamic States to lend support to the just struggle of the Arab people in Palestine, Syrian Arab Golan and Lebanon,

"Also affirming that the dangerous Zionist aggressive expansion is not only aimed at the front-line Arab States but also at destabilizing Islamic States and threatening their independence which constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

"Welcoming the programmes and plans proposed by Al-Quds Committee chaired by H.M. King Hassan II, of Morocco to stop the massive transfer of Soviet Jews to the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Underlining the imminent danger posed by the mass transfer of Soviet Jews and others to the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories,

"Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution No. (194) regarding the right of the Palestinians to return to their home land,

"Drawing the attention to the fact that the planned transfer of Soviet Jews to the Palestinian territories including the City of Al-Quds, the Arab Syrian Golan, and the other occupied Arab territories, will lead to compulsory mass transfer of the Palestinian people from their land and other similar transfers of Arab inhabitants with the aim of carrying out the Zionist plan of establishing 'Greater Israel', thus constituting a grave danger to the safety and security of the Palestinian people and Arab and Islamic States,

"Considering that the transfer of Soviet Jews and their settlement in the occupied Arab territories constitutes a flagrant violation of the principles of Human Rights, the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and in particular, Article 49, as well as the principles of the International Conventions on civil and political rights,

"1. Strongly condemns the transfer of Soviet and other Jews to occupied Palestine and the other occupied Arab territories as it constitutes a violation of the national rights of the Palestinian people, and a threat to the Arab and Islamic States and to the stability and security of the region;

"2. Salutes the struggle of the Palestinian people and expresses its pride in the blessed Intifadah and appeals to all OIC Member States to continue to support its Jihad and to increase their solidarity and support with the just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people against Israeli occupation, to enable them to strengthen their steadfastness and to attain all their goals of liberty and independence;

"3. Strongly condemns the continuing brutal Zionist and racist practices perpetrated against the citizens of occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories as well as the violation of human rights and international law, and appeals to international organisations to intervene to stop such inhuman practices considered as a flagrant violation of human rights and request the states party to the Fourth Geneva Convention to shoulder their responsibilities in order to ensure respect for the principles of the Convention;

"4. Stresses the right of the Palestinian people to return to their occupied homeland, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly in its resolution (No. 194);

"5. Strongly condemns the policy of building settlements and the settling of Soviet immigrants and others in the occupied Palestinian and territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Arab Syrian Golan and the rest of the Arab occupied territories and considers all settlements in the occupied Arab territories as null and void and in contravention of international legitimacy;

"6. Demands that all the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif be placed under provisional international control to ensure international protection to the Palestinian people and the prohibition of settling Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian territories as a step toward achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the region;

"7. Calls on the signatories to the Helsinki Conventions to open the way for the settlement on their territories of Jewish immigrants coming from other signatory states, consistent with their commitments to the provisions of the Convention;

"8. Requests the Government of the Soviet Union, in line with its stands which are generally supportive of the Palestinian Cause:

(i) To prevent the transfer of Soviet Jews to Israel for the following reasons:

(a) It constitutes a violation of International Laws, Conventions and Decisions;

(b) Israeli refusal to recognize the right of the Palestinian refugees to return to their homeland in conformity with the right to return stipulated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights and the relevant UN Resolutions as well as prohibiting Palestinian refugees to practice these rights;

(c) It threatens the peace process in the region and encourages the Zionist enemy to adopt a policy of expansionism, settlement and aggression;

(d) It contradicts the emigrant's freedom to choose the country in which he wishes to settle in the light of the restrictions imposed by the US which limits the entry of Jewish immigrants to US territory as well as the closure of transit

Centres in Europe which aim at compelling them to go to occupied Palestine;

(e) Israeli refusal to commit itself not to permit the settlement of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and not to establish settlements therein;

(ii) To demand that Israel offer guarantees that it shall not settle Soviet Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian territories including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, as well as the Arab Syrian Golan and the other occupied Arab territories;

(iii) Not to deprive any immigrant of his nationality and to allow him to keep his passport so that he may return to his homeland if he so wishes;

"9. Appeals to the US Government, in conformity with its declared stands against settlement in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Arab Syrian Golan to seek to prevent the settling of immigrants in the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the establishment of settlements therein, and to work to bring about the dismantling of those already established in conformity with the provisions of International Resolutions adopted in this respect, and invites the US Government to shoulder its responsibilities through the adoption of the following measures:

(a) To lift the restrictions it has has imposed on the entry of Jewish emigrants to the United States;

(b) To stop assistance offered by the US Administration to the Israeli Government in support of Israeli settlement projects in the occupied territories;

(c) To warn that tax-exemption of funds raised in the United States to support Israeli settlement projects contradicts the declared US policy concerning settlements in the occupied Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories;

"10. Appeals to the European Community Member States, in accordance with their distinctive position vis-à-vis the Palestinian Cause:

(a) To intensify contacts to oblige Israel to bring an end to the Israeli settlements and the settling of Jewish immigrants in the occupied Palestinian territories in conformity with relevant international resolutions;

(b) To permit emigrants who wish to settle in any of the European countries in accordance with the Helsinki Agreements;

(c) To re-open the European transit stations which afford emigrants the opportunity to choose the country of their destination;

"11. Calls on the Member States of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to effectively approach all influential forces in the world with a view to explaining the negative and dangerous effects of the transfer of Soviet Jews to occupied Palestine, and to counter it with all possible means. The Conference also calls on Member States to exert efforts to promote the return of Jews from occupied Palestine to their countries of origin;

"12. Requests the Security Council to set up an international observer committee to monitor and supervise the non-construction of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif in conformity with relevant UN Resolutions;

"13. Demands that all kinds of sanctions be imposed on those countries which offer their help in the process of the organized transfer of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories;

"14. Urges Parliaments and non-governmental organizations in the Member States to intensify contacts with their counterparts worldwide with a view to explaining the dimension and dangers of the Soviet Jewish transfer to occupied Palestine and the threat it poses to peace in the Middle-East region."

"Resolution No. 3/19-P on the Palestine Question and the Arab-Israeli Conflict

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Referring to the relevant resolutions of the Islamic summit and Foreign Ministers Conferences,

"Recalling all the resolutions of the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of African Unity on the question of Palestine and the Arab-Israeli conflict,

"Recalling also the resolutions of the two Extraordinary Arab Summits held respectively in Casablanca in May 1989 and Baghdad in May 1990 in this regard,

"Affirming the sustained enhancement of Islamic solidarity and the unswerving commitment of the Islamic States to the just struggle of the Arab people in Palestine, the Syrian Arab Golan and Lebanon,

"Reaffirming that the Palestine Question is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and that the Zionist enemy's continuing occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and its refusal to withdraw from them, its annexation of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and the Golan and its denial of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people constitute a flagrant violation of international legitimacy and the principles of international law as well as the UN Charter and the relevant UN resolutions,

"Noting with deep concern the critical situation in the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories resulting from continued Israeli occupation and its persistence in pursuing a policy of racism and expansionism and in escalating its acts of terrorism and repression against Arab citizens particularly, the destruction of their houses and their expulsion from their homeland,

"Asserting that the Geneva Convention of 1949 on the protection of civilians in times of war applies to the occupied Arab territories including Al-Quds, Al-Sharif and noting Israel's persistent refusal to apply it,

"Affirming that the danger of Zionist aggression and expansionism threatens not only the Arab frontline States, but is also seeking to destabilize the Islamic States and threaten their independence and constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

"Following with interest the continuation of the popular Palestinian Intifadah in the Occupied Palestinian territories for the third year, aiming at putting an end to the Israeli occupation and achieving the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their right of return, self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian State with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital,

"Noting with appreciation the decisions announced in the speech delivered by H.E. Mr. Yasser Arafat, President of the State of Palestine and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation at the Security Council, in Geneva, on 25 May 1990,

"Noting with deep concern that collusion between Israel and South Africa, leads to the encouragement of the policy of

terrorism and physical liquidation of Palestinians and Arabs in the occupied territories on the one hand, and the black majority in South Africa on the other,

"1. Salutes the struggle of the Palestinian people, expresses pride for their blessed Intifadah, and calls upon all Member States to continue supporting their Jihad, to increase solidarity and backing of their just and legitimate struggle against Israeli occupation until they achieve their full objectives of freedom and independence;

"2. Confirms its support of the independent State of Palestine and the right of Palestinian people to exercise sovereignty over their territory in their independent State;

"3. Supports efforts being exerted to convene the International Peace Conference under the auspices of the United Nations with the Participation of the permanent Member States of the Security Council as well as all concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on an equal footing with the other parties, in accordance with relevant UN General Assembly resolutions the latest of which being resolution 44/42 on establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

"4. Confirms its support and backing of the Palestinian Peace Initiative based on international legitimacy with a view to bringing a solution to the Palestinian Question which is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East;

"5. Confirms that the Palestine Question is the primary cause of Muslims and the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that a just and comprehensive peace in the region can only be established on the basis of total and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and of the restoration and exercise of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to return, to self-determination, and to the establishment of their independent Palestinian State on their national soil with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as Capital;

"6. Reaffirms that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is the legitimate and sole representative of the Palestinian people and that the PLO alone has the full right to represent them and to participate, on their behalf, independently and on an equal footing, in all conferences and activities relating to the Palestine Question and the Arab-Israeli conflict, and to lead their struggle for the liberation of the territory of the State of Palestine from Israeli occupation;

"7. Demands immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, and calls upon the United Nations to take all necessary procedures to ensure cessation of occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and to provide protection for the Palestinian people by placing the occupied Palestinian territories under provisional international supervision in preparation for the realization of a just and comprehensive peace in the region;

"8. Expresses regret for the suspension by the United States of America of its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization, and requests its resumption and its strengthening by upgrading its level considerably. The Conference also requests the USA to assume a just, balanced and unbiased political stand vis-à-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict, by recognizing the right to self-determination of the Palestinian people and respecting it which would help achieve a just and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East;

"9. Strongly condemns continuing Zionist barbaric and racist practices against the citizens of the Occupied Palestinian and Arab Territories, and appeals to international organisations to intervene to stop such inhuman practices which are considered as a flagrant violation of Palestinian human rights;

"10. Reaffirms that Al-Quds Al-Sharif is part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and the Capital of the State of Palestine and that any infringement of its legal status is a flagrant violation of international conventions, laws and resolutions and considers it illegal, null and void. In this respect, the Conference strongly condemns the decision of the U.S. Congress considering 'Jerusalem as an eternal Capital of Israel', which contradicts International Law, United Nations resolutions and the official U.S. stand on the Holy City;

"11. Strongly condemns the settlement policy, pursued by Israel and the settling of Soviet immigrants in the Occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, particularly the transfer of Jews and immigration of Soviet Jews and their settlement in these territories, which lead to the dispersion and deportation of more Palestinian and Arab inhabitants away from their homes which in turn undermines all efforts aimed at realizing a just and durable peace. It considers all existing settlements in the occupied territories as null and void and in contravention of international legitimacy;

"12. Commends the sustained efforts of the Islamic Group at the United Nations and calls on it to spare no effort in having

international resolutions adopted in favour of the Palestinian Question;

"13. Condemns the total co-operation between the racist régimes in Tel Aviv and Pretoria, particularly in the field of nuclear arms, and warns against the dangers of that co-operation;

"14. Affirms the commitment of Member States to intensify their efforts and co-ordinate their stands in all international fora, with a view to enhancing international co-operation in confronting the designs of the racist régimes in Israel and South Africa;

"15. Expresses its deep concern over the situation in the Palestinian Camps in Lebanon resulting from the continued Israeli aggressions and calls for sustained action to give the necessary support for their reconstruction as well as that of the Lebanese areas in their vicinity and for meeting the subsistence needs of their Palestinian population through co-operation and co-ordination between the PLO and the Lebanese Government, the sole legitimate authority. It condemns and denounces the barbaric raids and repeated aggressions of the Zionist enemy against these camps;

"16. Expresses its support and backing of the Republic of Iraq in confronting Zionist threats, and the right of Iraq to deter any aggression on it, and also expresses solidarity with Iraq in facing the western campaign, particularly that of the US, which aims at preventing Iraq from developing its technological capabilities;

"17. Expresses its appreciation to the Vatican City for its positive stand vis-à-vis the Palestine Question and its political support for the peace initiative of the PLO.

"18. Expresses its appreciation to the States of the European Economic Community for their positive role towards the convening of an International Conference on Peace in the Middle East and their supportive stands vis-à-vis the Palestinian Question, and their support for the PLO's peace initiative and calls upon them to further develop their positive stands, recognize the Palestinian State and establish relations with it;

"19. Expresses appreciation for the stand taken by the international community at political and information levels, as well as by the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the OAU and all the peoples and international forces which have supported the Palestine cause in the international fora, stood up for the struggle of the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifadah;

"20. Expresses appreciation for the constructive efforts of the United Nations Secretary-General to bring about a peaceful settlement of the Palestine Question and the Arab-Israeli conflict in the Middle East, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions;

"21. Commends the efforts made by the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, chaired by the Republic of Senegal to fulfil the tasks entrusted to it by the UN General Assembly;

"22. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a progress report thereon to the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers."

"Resolution No. 7/19-P on the Resumption or Establishment by some States of Diplomatic Relations with Israel and on the Transfer and Establishment of Embassies in Al-Quds Al-Sharif

"Inspired by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Recalling the relevant Security Council resolutions on the situation of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, especially Resolution 478 of the Security Council,

"Recalling the relevant resolutions of previous Islamic Conferences, which reaffirm the commitment of Member States to sever all political, economic, military, cultural and other direct or indirect relations with Israel,

"Reasserting that the maintenance or resumption of those relations helps Israel to continue its usurpation of Palestine and of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, and perpetuates Israeli occupation of Arab territories,

"Recalling Resolution 1155 of the 48th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organisation of African Unity, held in Addis Ababa from 19 to 23 May 1989, which recommended that Member States reiterate their firm resolve not to establish or resume diplomatic relations with Israel, this country being a natural and loyal ally of racist South Africa,

"Referring to previous Islamic resolutions, the latest of which is Resolution 16/18-P on countering Israeli attempts to break away from its isolation,

"1. Calls upon Member States to abide by the resolutions of Islamic Conferences on not establishing of any kind of relations with Israel;

"2. Deplores that some states have resumed their diplomatic relations with Israel and requests them to reconsider their decision;

"3. Appeals to those Member States that intend to resume or establish diplomatic or other relations with Israel to re-examine their positions;

"4. Urges the States that maintain diplomatic and other relations with Israel to re-consider such relations in compliance with the relevant resolutions of Islamic Conferences;

"5. Calls upon States to abstain from setting up their Embassies in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif or dealing with Israel in any way which can be construed as a recognition of its occupation or annexation of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this resolution."

"Resolution No. 9/19-P on the Al-Quds Committee

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Reaffirming the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and its blessed Intifadah,

"Commending the Member States which strive to follow up and implement the resolutions and recommendations of the Al-Quds Committee as a form of support to the Sacred Jihad and Blessed Intifadah of the Palestinian people until victory and liberation are achieved by the Grace of God,

"Appreciating the generous and continued efforts which the Al-Quds Committee has been exerting under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco in accordance with the Islamic resolutions on the question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Expressing its concern at the escalating criminal practices of the Zionist enemy, which aim to demolish the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and violate its hallowed precincts, and at the continuing excavations which aim to undermine the foundations of the

Mosques, to destroy it and to erect the so-called temple on its ruins,

"Expressing its concern at the continuing confiscation and expropriation of land and property in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and demolition of buildings,

"1. Endorses the recommendations made by the Al-Quds Committee at its extraordinary meeting held in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on 6 and 7 April, 1990, at the invitation of His Majesty King Hassan II of Morocco and Chairman of the Al-Quds Committee;

"2. Recommends that the Al-Quds Committee carry out the following actions at its next meeting:

(a) Study the latest developments of the Palestinian question in light of the new international conditions;

(b) Draw up a plan to support the Palestinian Intifadah morally and materially and to ensure its continuation and its impact on the course of international events;

(c) Draw up a plan to counter the provocative measures recently announced by the Government of the Zionist entity whereby it empowers the so-called mayor of Al-Quds to run the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, to dispose of its hallowed precincts and to erect Jewish facilities thereon;

(d) Draw up a plan to counter the Zionist schemes aimed at confiscating and expropriating real estate and land property in Al-Quds Al-Sharif in order to carry out the judaization of the Holy City and also recommends to work and contribute effectively to the renovation of buildings in the old city;

(e) Draw up a plan to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian Arab inhabitants of Al-Quds so they can confront and defeat Zionist schemes and preserve the Arab-Islamic character of Al-Quds Al-Sharif."

"Resolution No. 10/19-P on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Guided by Resolution No. 1/3-P (I.S) of the Third Islamic Summit Conference held in Makkah Al-Mukarramah and Taif,

"Recalling all Islamic resolutions adopted on the subject,

"Reaffirming the need for sustained enhancement of Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and the solemn commitment of Islamic States to implement all resolutions adopted on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and in particular the Declaration of Jihad to liberate it and release the Blessed Mosque of Al-Aqsa from the yoke of occupation,

"Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council, in particular Security Council resolution 478 of 20 August 1980,

"Expressing its complete solidarity with the heroic Intifadah of the Palestinian people in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine, and their resistance to Israeli aggression on the Holy Places especially the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque,

"Expressing its deep concern at the escalation of attacks on the Holy Places in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif by the Zionist occupation forces and Jewish settlers, this escalation comes in the context of criminal schemes aimed at destroying the Mosque of the Holy Dome of the Rock and the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque the Former Qiblah and Third Holiest Haram, to build the so-called Temple of Solomon on their site,

"Expressing its deep concern over the deteriorating situation of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and all Islamic and Christian Holy Places and ancient sites which reflect the heritage and civilization of the Arab-Islamic Ummah, especially following the annexation and judaization measures imposed by the forces of occupation thus endangering international peace and security,

"Expressing its concern and indignation at the repeated acts of aggression perpetrated by the Zionist enemy against people at prayer and on the desecration of the Holy Places,

"Commending the efforts made by the Islamic Development Bank in preparing a study for turning the houses around the Al-Aqsa Mosque into an Islamic Higher Institute as a contribution to the preservation of the Islamic character of the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Also commending the continuous efforts of Islamic States at the United Nations and all other international fora in support of the Question of Palestine and Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Further commending the continuous efforts of the Al-Quds Committee under the Chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II, Sovereign of the Kingdom of Morocco,

"1. Reaffirms that the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif is an integral part of the occupied Palestinian territories and the capital of the State of Palestine, and that any infringement of its legal status is a flagrant violation of international conventions and laws;

"2. Reiterates the commitment of Member States to implement the Islamic Programme of Action Against the Zionist Enemy, which was adopted by the Third Islamic Summit Conference;

"3. Reaffirms the commitment of Member States to pursue and co-ordinate their action with those international groups which support the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people with a view to implementing international resolutions adopted by the United Nations and its specialized agencies such as UNESCO, etc. on stopping the hostile measures and aggressive practices in this Holy City, in particular the deliberate violations of the sanctity of the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and other Sacred places in Palestine;

"4. Invites all States to refrain from having any dealings with the Israeli occupation authorities which might be interpreted or claimed by those authorities as an implicit recognition and acceptance of the "fait accompli" imposed by the proclamation of Al-Quds as the eternal and unified capital of the Zionist entity and invites all States maintaining diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy to refrain from transferring their Embassies and Missions to the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif;

"5. Strongly condemns the decision of the U.S. Congress which considers the City of Al-Quds as the capital of Israel, in violation of international law and United Nations resolutions and appeals to rescind this decision which impinges on Arab rights and defies the feelings of the Islamic Ummah and calls on Member States to request their Parliaments to raise this question at International Parliamentary Conferences;

"6. Entrusts the Secretary-General with the task of holding in various capitals in the world, seminars in co-ordination with Member States, to promote the cause of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Palestine;

"7. Invites the Member States which have not yet implemented the Islamic resolutions concerning the twinning of their capitals and their historical cities with the City of

Al-Quds Al-Sharif, the capital of Palestine, to take early action to this effect thereby enhancing the spirit of Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people;

"8. Calls on the Member States which have announced the twinning of their capitals with the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif to promptly sponsor some projects which strengthen the steadfastness of the Holy City, its inhabitants and its institutions;

"9. Invites the Member States to take necessary action to counter the Israeli schemes which have entered the implementation stage and which involve the demolition of the Blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and the building of the so-called Temple of Solomon on its site;

"10. Appeals to the United Nations and Security Council and the international community to implement the international resolutions banning the construction of new settlements in the City of Al-Quds and which consider all settlements already built as null and void and illegal and should be removed;

"11. Rejects and condemns the decision of Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and bring about demographic changes in, and judaization of, the City, thus seriously violating the principles of international law, the Charter and resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, the UN Security Council, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Fourth Geneva Conference of 1949;

"12. Calls for action to convene an Islamic-Christian symposium with the participation of the Vatican City and eastern and other churches, aimed at preserving the identity, religious and historical character and demographic set-up of the Holy City;

"13. Pays tribute to the unwavering stand of the Holy See in condemning Israeli measures and practices perpetrated in the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and calls for maintaining contacts with the Holy See and other Christian religious institutions in order to adopt a unified Islamic-Christian stand to preserve the Arab identity and Islamic character of the City of Al-Quds;

"14. Entrusts the Secretary-General with the task of following up the implementation of this resolution and to submit a report thereon to both the Al-Quds Committee and the Twentieth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers."

"Resolution No. 11/19-P on the Palestine Stamp

"Proceeding fromthe principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of Islamic Conference,

"Referring to all the Islamic Resolutions adopted in this respect,

"Recalling the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine and their blessed Intifadah,

"Expressing its deep appreciation to the Islamic States which are issuing on a constant and regular basis the Palestine Stamp and transferring its proceeds to the Welfare Society for the families of Palestinian martyrs and freedom-fighters,

"Underlining the importance of continuing to issue the Palestine Stamp by Member States for the material and moral impact on the Palestinian people and their just cause,

"1. Reiterates its invitation to the Member States that have issued the Palestine Stamp to continue doing so on a constant and regular basis and to transfer the proceeds therefrom to the account of the Welfare Society for the families of the martyrs and freedom-fighters (PLO Palestine Welfare Society - Stamp Palestine) at the Islamic Development Bank;

"2. Reiterates its invitation to those Member States that have not issued the Stamp to do so as soon as possible."

"Resolution No. 12/19-P on the Zionist Colonialist Settlement in Palestine and the Occupied Arab Territories

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of Islamic Conference,

"Referring to all relevant Islamic Resolutions,

"Reaffirming the principle of furthering Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifadah,

"Recalling Security Council Resolution 465 on Settlement,

"Paying tribute to the efforts made by the Islamic Experts Committee for confronting the dangers of the Zionist Colonialist Settlements in Palestine and its perseverance in trying to evolve plans and submit proposals concerning the ways and means to bolster the Palestinian people's resistance to ensure their

remaining on their homeland Palestine, and to help them achieve and exercise their inalienable national rights,

"Highlighting the importance of implementing the plans and programmes proposed by the Committee to put an end to the practices of the Zionist enemy and the continued confiscation and annexation of occupied Palestinian and Arab territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif and their gradual erosion through measures for judaization and for the establishment of further settlements there and bringing in more Zionist immigrants, for the purpose of creating a demographic, cultural and religious transformation, in addition to the escalation of terrorist and iron fist policy pursued by Israel against the Arab Palestinian inhabitants,

"Expressing the importance of providing support to the Committee, facilitating its work and task, especially under the present conditions in the occupied territories and the decision of the new Israeli government to continue establishing more settlements and extend existing ones,

"1. (A) Reaffirms that the establishment of settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories including the City of Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and the Arab Syrian Golan and other occupied Arab territories, constitutes a violation of the principles of international law and, in particular, the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention concerning the protection of civilians in times of war and invites Member States to continue their efforts for the mobilization of world public opinion against the Israeli policies which are geared toward the establishment of further settlements, and to act for getting necessry resolutions issued form the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council so as to force the Israeli authorities to discontinue their establishment of settlements in those territories;

(B) Calls on the States who are party to the Fourth Geneva Convention to request the appointment of a "garrison force" in the occupied Palestinian territories including Al-Quds Al-Sharif in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Convention and that this force co-operate with the Security Council and the UN Bodies especially those operative in those territories;

"2. Approves and supports the efforts made by the Committee for the implementation and follow-up of its adopted Plan of Action and invites the Member States to extend the necessary material support for the implementation of the Committee's Plan of Action;

"3. Invites the Member States to support the Committee's action through any information or reports available to them on the Zionist policies concerning immigration to Palestine and the occupied Syrian Arab Golan, as they are a direct cause and major boost for the Zionist settlement policy;

"4. Strongly condemns the Israeli decision to establish a board to run the Islamic endowments in Haifa, with a Jewish majority instead of the former Arab Committee, in a new Israeli plot aimed at laying hands on the properties of the Islamic endowment in the city, threatening the Islamic shrines with desecration and confiscation and representing a glaring case of complete disrespect to the feelings of all Muslims;

"5. Mandates the Secretary-General with the task to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and to submit a report thereon to the next Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers."

"Resolution No. 14/19-P on the Teaching of a 'History and Geography of Palestine Course'

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

"Reaffirming the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and its blessed Intifadah,

"Recalling all the relevant Islamic Resolutions,

"Expressing appreciation for the intensive efforts made by the 'Committee of Experts on Education' in preparing, arranging, revising and finalizing a unified curriculum in the History and Geography of Palestine to be taught at all levels of school education in all Islamic States,

"Emphasizing the importance and the compass of the role of this curriculum in acquainting people with the cause of Palestine and the liberation of its Israeli-occupied territories at official, popular, political and scientific levels with a view to guaranteeing and safeguarding the eternal right of the Islamic Ummah in Holy Al-Aqsa Mosque, Al-Quds Al-Sharif, and usurped Palestine, and consolidating Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and enabling them to recover and exercise their inalienable national rights including their right to return to their homeland, and their right to self-determination, to the liberation of Palestinian territories and to establish, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation their sole

legitimate representative, their independent Palestinian State, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital,

"1. Entrusts the General Secretariat in collaboration with Member States' Ministers of Education to take the appropriate measures to ensure that the unified curriculum of the History and Geography of Palestine is taught as a mandatory subject at all levels of school education in all Islamic States;

"2. Invites the Member States and all official and popular institutions, all charitable establishments, universities and the Islamic Development Bank, to contribute to the cost of printing the official curriculum text-books in the local and official languages of the non-Arabic speaking Islamic States which shall be specified by the Islamic Committee of Experts on Education;

"3. Entrusts the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) to find the necessary means for implementation of this resolution in the Islamic States and to specify the steps that must be taken in this regard;

"4. Entrusts the General Secretariat with the task of coordinating with the PLO and the ISESCO to ensure the printing of the curriculum as soon as possible."

"Resolution No. 15/19-P on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

"Referring to all the Islamic Resolutions adopted on Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf,

"Reaffirming the principle of consolidating Islamic solidarity with the Palestinian people and their blessed Intifadah,

"Commending the Member States that unfailingly donate and fulfil their obligations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, in particular the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

"Appreciating the vial role played by Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf in supporting the struggle and Jihad of the Palestinian people and consolidating their heroic Intifadah within their occupied country Palestine, and particularly the city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif,

"Commending the eighth session of the Board of Directors of Al-Quds Fund,

"Also commending the joint meeting of the Islamic Experts Committee on ways to confront the dangers of Zionist colonialist settlement in occupied Palestine and Arab territories and the Board of Directors of Al-Quds Fund,

"Considering the important role that could be played by the Waqf in ensuring for the Fund a steady flow of financial resources,

"Expressing its concern over the continuing critical situation of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, a state of affairs that negatively affects the performance of the tasks for which they were established,

"1. Calls upon all Member States, once again, to cover the budget of Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, that amount to one hundred million dollars each;

"2. Urges the Member States to speedily pay their statutory contributions to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf, in addition to the donations pledged by some States but as yet not deposited in the Fund and Waqf accounts opened at the Islamic Development Bank;

"3. Decides to adopt all resolutions and recommendations of the Eighth Session of the Board of Directors of the Fund held in Jeddah on 13 and 14 Jumada ul Aula, 1410H, corresponding to 11 and 12 December, 1989;

"4. Decides to adopt all resolutions and recommendations of the Joint meeting of the Islamic Experts Committee on ways to confront the dangers of Zionist colonialist settlement in occupied Palestine and Arab territories and the Board of Directors of Al-Quds Fund held in Jeddah on 15 Jumada ul Aula, 1410H, corresponding to 13 December 1989;

"5. Appeals to all Member States to address a call to their citizens and resident expatriates to give donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf in order to be able to implement the Islamic resolutions concerning supporting and diversifying the sources of financing the Fund and its Waqf;

"6. Expresses gratitude and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, for his noble initiative of issuing directives to His Royal Highness Prince Salman Ibn Abdul Aziz Al-Saud, Governor of Riyadh Region, and Chairman of the Popular Committee in the Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia to help the Mujahideen of Palestine, to issue a call for all citizens and expatriates in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, urge them to give donations to Al-Quds Fund and its Waqf to consolidate their resources and help to preserve the Islamic Holy Shrines in Al-Quds Al-Sharif and liberate it from the yoke of Zionism;

"7. Requests the implementation of the previous resolution on the formation of a joint delegation of the General Secretariat and the Board of Directors of the Fund to visit some Islamic States for supporting the financial resources of the Fund and its Waqf;

"8. Entrusts the Secretary-General with the task of following up the implementation of this resolution."

"Resolution No. 16/19-P on the Islamic Bureau for Military Co-ordination with Palestine

"Proceeding from the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference,

"Reaffirming the principle of strengthening Islamic solidarity with the people of Palestine and their glorious Intifadah,

"Expressing its deep appreciation to those Member States which support the Palestinian military effort and supply it with the basic requirements in terms of military support, training and standard raising,

"Convinced of the importance of the effective role played by the Bureau for raising the military capacity of the Palestinian revolutionary forces in conjunction with the military commands of the Member States, and the PLO,

"Commending the Fourth Meeting of the Islamic Bureau for Military Coordination with Palestine,

"Pursuant to the pertinent Islamic resolutions regarding the Islamic Bureau for Military Coordination with Palestine,

"1. Decides to maintain cooperation and coordination between the military authorities of the member States and the State of Palestine (PLO), with a view to supporting the Holy Jihad and just struggle of the Palestinian people to liberate their homeland, Palestine including Al-Quds Al-Sharif, which is occupied by Israel and liberate the Holy Mosque of Al-Aqsa and

the Holy city of Al-Quds Al-Sharif from the yoke of the Zionist enemy;

"2. Urges the Member States to continue to support the PLO in that field, with intensified emphasis on coordinated and concerted efforts through the Islamic Bureau of Military Coordination with Palestine, and meet the increased requirements of the PLO for military hardware, equipment, technical expertise, increased competence and provide the necessary scholarships and training courses for its forces, in addition to strengthening bilateral contacts with that Organisation;

"3. Adopts the resolutions and recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Islamic Bureau for Military Coordination with Palestine, held in Jeddah on 4 and 5 Rajab 1410H (30-31 January 1990)."

XII. EXCERPT FROM DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GROUP OF 77 AT FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN NEW YORK, ON 3 OCTOBER 1990

"The Ministers noted with grave concern that the Arab territories in Palestine, Syrian Golan and parts of southern Lebanon are still under Israeli occupation which deprives their people of their land and the sovereignty over their natural resources, thus impeding their economic and social development. In this context, the Ministers affirmed the urgent need to see the termination of this occupation."
(see A/45/584, annex, para. 31)

XIII. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

In the course of October, the following information was received by the Division for Palestinian Rights:

1. Jerusalem, publication of Palestine Committee for Non-governmental Organizations, available from: B.P. 554, Tunis Cedex 1080, Tunis, Tunisia.

2. The Other Front, weekly bulletin on development in Israeli society, available from: The Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

3. HADAF Newsletter, available from: Al-Hadaf Cultural Foundation, P.O. Box 169, 30010 UMM El Fahn, Israel.

4. Newsletter on Freedom of the Press, monthly publication of the Forum of Action for Freedom of the Press and the Re-opening of Derech Hanitzotz, available from: P.O. Box 1575, Jerusalem.

5. The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, available from: P.O. Box 53062, Washington, D.C. 20009.

6. Palestine Solidarité, bi-monthly bulletin of the Association Medicale Franco-Palestinienne. Available from: AMFP, 14 rue de Nanteuil, 75015 Paris, France.

7. New Zealand Palestine Review, available from: P.O. Box 29-168, Christchurch, New Zealand.

8. Israeli Mirror, monthly press round-up, available from: 21 Collingham Road, London, SW5 ONU, England.

9. Israel and Palestine Political Report, available from: Magelan, 5 rue Cardinal Mercier, 75009, Paris, France.

10. News from Within, independent political newsletter published by Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

11. International Association of Democratic Lawyers, issues Communiqué concerning Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. Available from: 263, Avenue Albert, 1180 Bruxelles, Belgium.

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UNITED NATIONS

DIVISION FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

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I. INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

On 29 November 1990, the International Day of Solidarity was observed at United Nations Headquarters, New York, and at Geneva, Vienna, as well as several other cities.

All States Members of the United Nations, specialized agencies and observers were invited to attend the solemn meeting of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People which took place at United Nations Headquarters in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977.

At that meeting, statements were made by: Absa Claude Diallo (Senegal), Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People; Guido de Marco (Malta), President of the General Assembly; and, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Chief of the Division for Palestinian Rights read out a message from Thomas R. Pickering (United States of America), President of the Security Council for the month of November, and the Observer for Palestine, Mr. Nasser Al-Kidwa, read out a message from Mr. Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Statements were also made by: Mohammad A. Abulhasan, as representative of Sheik Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Emir of Kuwait, Chairman of the Fifth Islamic Summit Conference; Daya Perera (Sri Lanka), Chairman of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories; Darko Silovic (Yugoslavia), representative of the Chairman of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries; Abulmarek Ismail Mohamed, Observer for the League of Arab States; and Jeanne Butterfield, the representative of the International Co-ordinating Committee for Non-governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine.

A concluding statement was made by the Chairman.

Messages to commemorate the occasion were received from 27 heads of State, 9 heads of Government, 9 Foreign Ministers, 2 Governments, as well as the representatives of 2 intergovernmental and 3 non-governmental organizations.

All statements and texts of messages received will be published <u>in extenso</u> in a special bulletin prepared by the Division for Palestinian Rights.

In further commemoration of the International Day, the Committee arranged the screening of a series of films during the

week beginning 29 November in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium.

At the request of the Committee, in still further commemoration of the International Day, the office of the Permanent Observer for Palestine to the United Nations presented an exhibit in co-operation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, which was displayed in the Public Lobby at United Nations Headquarters from Thursday, 29 November to Wednesday, 5 December 1990.

II. SECURITY COUNCIL CONTINUES CONSIDERATION OF THE SITUATION IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

On 7, 9 and 16 November, the Security Council continued consideration of the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

On 9 November, the Security Council viewed a bystander's videotape of events that took place at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem. At that meeting, the Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People made the following statement:

> "I thank the members of the Council for having given me the opportunity as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People to participate once again in the Council's important debate on the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories.
>
> "The dispatch with which the Council was convened indicates that the ongoing deterioration of the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories is of major concern to the members of the Council and to the international community as a whole. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People is therefore entitled to hope that this debate will culminate in a clear and firm demonstration of the Council's determination to find the ways and means to provide effective and efficacious protection for the Palestinian civilian population.
>
> "I personally am especially convinced that a close examination of the objective and thorough report submitted by the Secretary-General has provided a better understanding of the imperative need to meet the challenge issued by Israel and to take all steps necessary to accelerate the process of reaching a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict and, thereby, the Palestine question.

"I wish therefore to pay a well-deserved tribute to the Secretary-General, His Excellency Mr. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, for this very useful working tool he has provided and for his tireless and ceaseless efforts to help find a just and peaceful solution to this problem.

"We are grateful to him for this valuable report, which was prepared under particularly arduous circumstances because of the refusal of the Israeli authorities to facilitate his task, contrary to the recommendations in resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990).

"In his report, the Secretary-General emphasized the need to reach a political solution to this conflict. This is a recommendation which simply must be implemented, because the intifadah, which has been going on for about three years, has clearly shown us that the Palestinians are resolved to put an end to Israeli occupation and to exercise their legitimate political rights, particularly the right to self-determination and independence. In my various statements before the General Assembly and the Security Council as Chairman of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, I, too, have never failed to emphasize the urgent need to reach a negotiated, just and lasting settlement to the problem of the Middle East, in accordance with the fundamental principles of the Charter and the relevant United Nations resolutions. We agree with the Secretary-General that in the current circumstances it is essential to proceed immediately to set up a genuine negotiating process which is both effective and acceptable to all.

"All the members of the Council will, I think, agree with me that we no longer have any right to procrastinate, because by adopting resolution 44/42 almost unanimously on 6 December 1989, the General Assembly reaffirmed the essential principles which should lead to a just and lasting solution of the question of Palestine. This resolution, I need hardly recall, reiterates the call for the speedy convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the participation of all parties to the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, on an equal footing, and the five permanent members of the Security Council based on resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973) and the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination. This resolution likewise recalled that the achievement of comprehensive peace must necessarily be based on: Israel's withdrawal from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including

Jerusalem, and from the other occupied Arab territories; guaranteeing arrangements for security of all States in the region, including those named in General Assembly resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, within secure and internationally recognized boundaries; resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and subsequent relevant resolutions; dismantling the Israeli settlements in the territories occupied since 1967; and guaranteeing freedom of access to Holy Places, religious buildings and sites.

"In its report, which was recently adopted, and which will shortly be submitted to the General Assembly, the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People expresses full support for the efforts made by the permanent members of the Security Council to find some common ground between the parties to the conflict, to create a climate of trust among them and thus to facilitate the convening and successful culmination of an international peace conference.

"The Committee is sure that, with the same degree of political will which was recently demonstrated,the Security Council can reach a consensus on all the important issues of concern to the international community in the field of international peace and security. This is why I would like to urge the Council to act with the same ardour and determination in order to find a just and lasting settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict and its core element, the question of Palestine.

"To that end, the Security Council should spare no effort to put an end to the dangerous diplomatic deadlock which is paralysing the efforts currently being made to promote peace and security for the civilian population in the occupied Palestinian territory. In this connection, the Committee deplores Israel's continual resort to military force in its indiscriminate and unrelenting repression of the Palestinina uprising, as well as the attitude of defiance demonstrated by the Israeli authorities towards the international communtiy.

"It is no longer necessary for me to repeat the details of the latest tragic events. The statements already made on this subject and the observations contained in the Secretary-General's report are eloquent proof of the seriousness of the situation. Nor do I need to emphasize that intensification of the intifadah is essentially due to the intransigence of the occupying Power, its acts of

violence and persecution and the current diplomatic deadlock. Nevertheless, I cannot shirk my duty to condemn once again the armed attack by Israel in Al-Haram Al-Shareef, because this unfortunate event, which caused more than 20 deaths among the Palestinians, was followed by increased repression in the occupied territories, during which at least 10 other Palestinians were killed and many hundreds of innocent people were injured.

"Just one week ago, on 2 November, the populations in the Gaza Strip carried out demonstrations to protest against the death under dubious circumstances of a Palestinian in a cell in the central prison in that area. The very next day, the entire Gaza Strip was declared an armed military zone, and access to it was prohibited to journalists without special authorization.

"These arbitrary and provocative steps have prompted confrontations between the local populations and the Israeli forces, as a result of which at least 200 Palestinians have been injured.

"Since its establishment by the General Assembly 15 years ago, our Committee has constantly maintained that if no outcome could be found to the diplomatic and political deadlock, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory would necessarily deteriorate and the violence would worsen, with unforeseeable consequences for peace and security in that area.

"Moreover, the Committee has always emphasized that the main obstacle to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East is essentially the stubbornness of Israel in its efforts to continue its occupation of Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem and the other Arab territories, as well as its obstinate denial to the Palestinians of any opportunity to exercise their inalienable national rights.

"Israel must nevertheless realize that the prolonged occupation, the repression of the Palestinian populations and the progressive annexation of their territories will never be able to guarantee the security of their State but, rather, will contribute to increasing the bitterness, the despair and the spirit of resistance of the Palestinian people.

"Our Committee believes that it is absolutely essential to find a way to cut the vicious circle of violence and re-establish order, peace and security, which will be in the interests of both the Palestinian people in the occupied

territories and the Israeli people. Nevertheless, it is clear that the acts of violence and brutality will not cease until reason and tolerance prevail over blind passion and the taste for vengeance or domination. It is high time, therefore, to take steps to create climate that favours negotiation - that indispensible stage in the efforts to bring about an overall political settlement of the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian problem.

"It is for all these reasons, and prompted by a strong desire to contribute to the promotion of a peace process, that the Committee once again urges the Security Council to set up as a matter of urgency a system that will ensure the effective protection of the Palestinian people in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem.

"As the Secretary-General emphasized in his report, and as was also stated in the report prepared by the Al-Haq organization, which has been distributed as an addendum to that document, the Palestinians' distrust of the occupying authorities is now so deep that in their opinion only an impartial presence, properly mandated by the United Nations, would be able to provide them with a credible sense of protection.

"In the light of these comments, the Committee believes that it is the duty of the high contracting parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to find the necessary means of ensuring respect for that Convention by Israel, as the occupying Power.

"As for the Security Council, the Committee expects it to take appropriate, specific steps on the same lines, because Israel's outright rejection of Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990) undoubtedly constitutes a challenge that calls into question its credibility.

"The Committee is convinced that in the present context the Council has already given the world proof of its ability to fulfil its lofty mission to maintain international peace and security, and that it will not allow its authority to continue to be flouted, for there is, after all, the danger that world equilibrium may crumble, with all the hopes aroused by the end of the cold war and the beginning of a new era of common understanding.

"The Committee therefore hopes that this debate will lead to the adoption of a resolution that will guarantee the Palestinian populations effective protection and represent a decisive step on the way to a comprehensive solution of the crisis in the Middle East.

"In conclusion may I say, paraphrasing Elie Wiesel and Tahar Ben Jelloun, that it is high time to redress the injustice committed with regard to the Palestinian people, that people fated to be shattered.

"It is high time to move beyond the stage of hoping and save the common future of the people of this holy land, which will, I hope, as in the prophetic vision of Isaiah, become like an Eden where

> "'They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.' (The Holy Bible, Isaiah 11:9)". (See S/PV.2954)

III. SECRETARY-GENERAL CONSIDERS FAVOURABLY THE IDEA OF SENDING PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE TO ISRAEL AND OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

On 20 November 1990, the following statement was issued by the spokeswoman for the Secretary-General (SG/SM/4519):

"The Secretary-General, who returned to New York today, is considering favourably the idea of sending his Personal Representative, Jean-Claude Aimé, to Israel and the occupied territories. This idea was discussed by the Secretary-General with a number of dignitaries in Paris, among whom was the Israeli Foreign Minister.

"The Secretary-General continues to be deeply concerned about the situation in the occupied territories and, accordingly, feels that a visit by his envoy might be useful. At the same time, it should be recalled that the Secretary-General does not, as a rule, intervene in matters with which the Security Council is seized. He would not wish, in this connection, to prejudice the outcome of the deliberations of the Council which, at present, has on its agenda the situation in the occupied territories. A visit by Mr. Aimé will most probably take place following the current consideration of this matter by the Council."

IV. UNRWA DEPLORES RECENT UPSURGE OF VIOLENCE IN GAZA STRIP

The following press release was issued by UNRWA on 5 November 1990:

"According to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), one Palestinian was killed and over 300 wounded by the Israeli Army during violent confrontations in the Gaza Strip over the weekend. These were the fiercest confrontations in Gaza since 20 May this year, UNRWA stated, when clashes erupted following the killing of seven Gazan workers in Israel.

"Rioting was triggered by rumours that a Palestinian detainee from Beit Hanoun had been killed in his Gaza prison cell, the Agency said. The Israeli authorities claimed that he had committed suicide. Clashes spread out from Beit Hanoun to other refugee camps and were particularly violent in Jabalia and Rafah camps.

"In Jabalia camp, army patrols positioned themselves in front of the UNRWA health centre, making it difficult for UNRWA ambulance personnel to evacuate the injured, UNRWA said. Helicopters dropped tear-gas and stones on demonstrations. In Rafah, tear-gas was fired into the compounds of the Al-Quds secondary school. Some 90 schoolgirls were treated in an UNRWA clinic for gas inhalation. The UNRWA registered a total of 306 casualties, 124 of them injured by live ammunition.

"In a statement issued on 5 November at its headquarters, UNRWA said it deplored the strong measures used by the Israeli authorities to control demonstrations. 'Such measures seem more likely to contribute to the violence rather than to quell it', the statement said." (See PAL/1738)

V. NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS: ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION

In the course of November, the following information was received by the Division for Palestinian Rights:

1. Palestine, Palestine Liberation Organization information bulletin, fortnightly supplement of Falestine Al-Thawra, the central organ of the Palestine Liberation Organization. Available from: 13 Botsari Street, Nicosia, Cyprus.

2. The Other Front, weekly bulletin on developments in Israeli society, published by the Alternative Information Center, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

3. Middle East International, available from: 1700, 17th Street, N.W. No. 306, Washington, D.C. 20009, United States of America.

4. Palestine and Law, review of the International Standing Committee of Lawyers on the Question of Palestine and Peace in the Middle East. Available from: Secretariat of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, 263 Avenue Albert, 1180 Brussels, Belgium.

5. Educational Network, newsletter concerning education in the occupied territory. Available from: Friends Schools, P.O. Box 66, Ramallah, West Bank via Israel.

6. Women's Organization for Women Political Prisoners, semi-annual reports containing testimonies of women detainees in the Russian Compound Detention Centre in Jerusalem and a description of the organization's activities. Available from: P.O. Box 8537, Jerusalem 91083.

7. WAFA, monthly newsletter of the Palestine News Agency, Inc. Available from: National Press Building, Suite 1265, 529 14th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20045, United States of America.

8. Middle East Witness, message from the Organization concerning recent killings in Jerusalem. Further information available from: 515 Broadway, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, United States of America.

9. The Washington Report on Middle East Affairs, available from: P.O. Box 53062, Washington, D.C. 20009, United States of America.

10. The Other Israel, newsletter of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace. Available from: P.O. Box 956 Tel Aviv, Israel 61008.

11. Al Hadaf Newsletter, available from: P.O. Box 169, 30010 UMM El Fahm, Israel.

12. News from Within, monthly bulletin analysing developments in Palestinian society, the intifadah and Israeli occupation policy. Available from: the Alternative Information Centre, P.O. Box 24278, Jerusalem.

13. The Palestinian, monthly publication of the Association of Palestinian-Arab Canadians, Capital Region, available fom: P.O. Box 2605, Station "D", Ottawa, Ontario, K1P5W7 Canada.

14. NACC Newsletter, published by the North American Co-ordinating Committee for Non-governmental Organizations on the Question of Palestine. Available from: 1747 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20009, United States of America.

15. Breaking the Siege, newsletter of the Middle East Justice Network. Available from: P.O. Box 558, Cambridge, MA 02238, United States of America.

16. The Israeli Army and the Intifadah, Policies that Contribute to the Killings, a Middle East Watch Report, available from: Human Rights Watch, 485 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10017-6104, or 1522 K Street, NW # 910, Washington, D.C. 20005, United States of America.

17. ADC Times, news and opinions of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. Available from: 4201 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20008, United States of America.

18. Palestine Human Rights Information Center, Database Project on Palestinian Human Rights, Survey of Human Rights Violations and their Context as of October 1990. Available from: Palestine Human Rights Information Center of the Arab Studies Society, P.O. Box 20479, Jerusalem, or, PHRIC International 4753 N. Broadway, Suite 930, Chicago, IL 60640, United States of America.

19. B'TSELEM, The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories. Information sheet containing information on the closure of schools and other setbacks to the education system in the occupied territories. Available from: 18 Kenen Hayesod Street, Jerusalem, 92149.

20. Middle East Justice Network, Israel and Palestine, a Congressional Report Card. Available from: P.O. Box 558, Cambridge, MA 02238, United States of America.

21. Les Palestiniennes Déportées, document prepared by the Association pour l'union entre les peuples juif et palestinien. Available from: Case postale 43, 1247 Anièmes, Geneva, Switzerland.

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